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AMERICAN CATTLE PRODUCER



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THE NATIONAL LIVESTOCK MONTHLY

OCTOBER 1943

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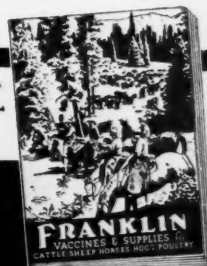
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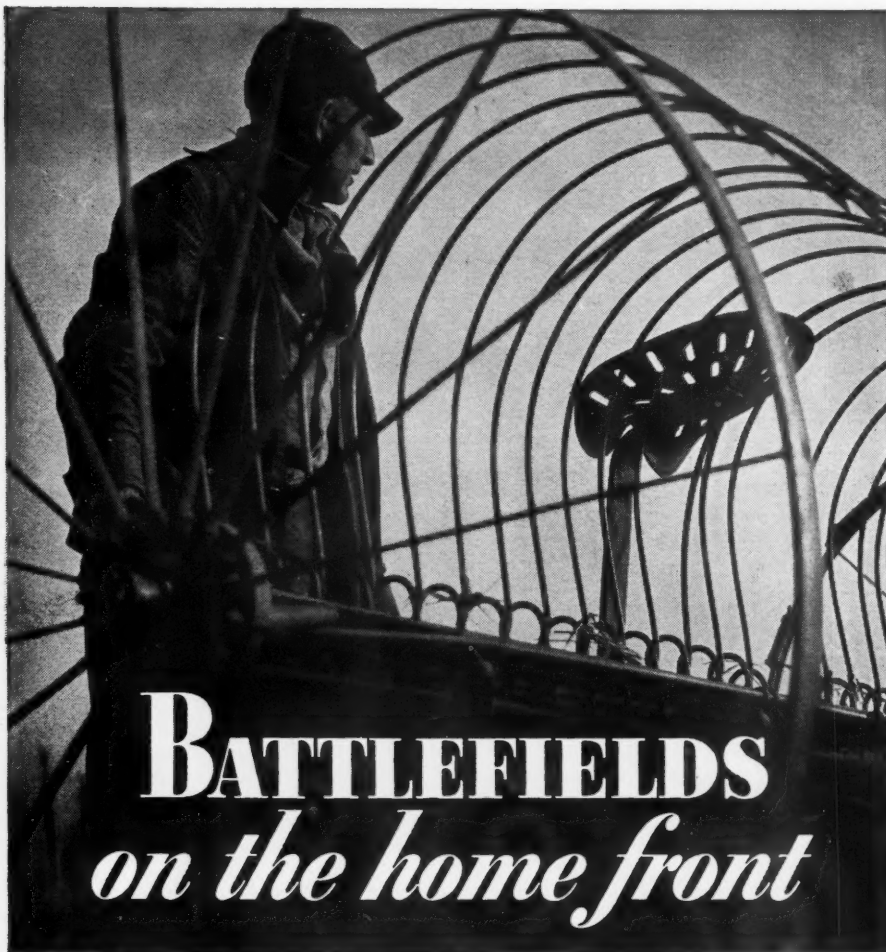
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BEHIND the victories of our fighting men abroad stand America's half-billion acres of farm lands at home.

An army of 6 million determined farmers work those acres.

And this is what they are doing.

They're feeding over 8 million men in our armed forces.

They're sending overseas 5 million dollars' worth of food a day on our lend-lease program.

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We know, because by far the greater part of what they produce

is carried by the railroads — part of the million-and-a-third tons of all kinds of freight hauled a mile every minute of the day and night.

Like the farmers, the railroads have lost many of their men to Uncle Sam. And they have to get along with little or no new equipment.

But, also like the farmers, they are determined to do their level best to meet all the demands made upon them — to back up to the limit the men who fight for our free American way of self-reliance, enterprise and initiative.



LETTERS

STOCKMEN NERVOUS

We have lots of livestock ready for the market. We have had a good season in these parts and stock are in fine condition. The market is very cold on lightweight stockers, such as light yearlings and calves. Cattle is high and scarce, but some mill feed is to be had. Stockmen are pretty nervous over things in general.—FRANK V. WATT, Crook County, Wyo.

FEW ON FEED

Very few cattle are on feed in this rich corn belt of Ohio. Government uncertainties, price ceilings, high feeder costs, high labor costs are the reasons. We normally have 5,000 head on feed in this county, but I now estimate there are only about 500.—JOHN K. KNOOP, Miami County, Ohio.

GOOD START

We are in fairly good shape in this section, having had rains this month which brought out our grass and promises to start us into the winter with good feed. This will depend to some extent, however, on whether we have a normal fall.—EUGENE J. HAYWARD, San Miguel County, N. M.

SHIPPING SLOW

We have had a very good season here so far. The small grain yield is very good. Grass and water are plentiful. Stock is doing well. There is no shipping to speak of. It is quite hot and dry at this writing.—H. H. DODD, Dawes County, Neb.

AMERICAN CATTLE PRODUCER

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AMERICAN CATTLE PRODUCER

Kansas City Conference

ELSEWHERE in this issue is carried quite a complete story of the livestock and feed conference held at Kansas City on September 2. It was by all odds the most outstanding meeting of the livestock industry in the past decade. Not even the most optimistic would have thought before the meeting that 2,000 stockmen from 27 states comprising the main livestock producing and feeding areas of the country could have been thus brought together to express themselves so well and so unanimously on the major problems facing the livestock industry today. The resolutions which are summarized in the convention story are straightforward and full of meat, if the larders of the country are not, due to too much governmental regulation.

Not a single controversy developed, and the congressmen present must have carried to Washington the conviction that the industry is ready to do the job that lies ahead if only the government will remove unnecessary hazards.

Most striking of all was the almost complete omission of any reference to price. Those who have charged the livestock industry with seeking undue profits would have found no basis for such charge. Price is important in relation to production. It is true that production cannot be maintained at the desired volume under present meat ceilings if the government permits continued increases in the cost of producing and feeding livestock such as the recent substantial advance in the price of concentrates, the raise in corn ceiling prices, and the constant upward trend of farm and ranch wages; but today price is not the most important factor in the picture. The resolutions call attention pointedly to the factors that are obstructing the production of meat.

The charge that stockmen are hoarding livestock and thus creating an artificial shortage was likewise exploded. The facts in the case are that meat production each year beginning with 1940 has set a new all-time record and there is every indication that the record set last year will again be exceeded this year.

The conference wisely called attention to the fact that if meat, and particularly beef and mutton, are not produced in adequate supply this winter, it will not be because of any shortage of animals and can only in small degree be chargeable to feed shortages. There is enough feed in sight to expand livestock feeding operations materially, although animals cannot be and should not be carried to the normal degree of finish.

The conference put it up to Uncle Sam. If he wants meat, make it pos-

sible for the industry to perform; put the program of the War Meat Board into actual practice without the present stumbling blocks; remove the threat of live animal price ceilings; make plain the situation as to the supply and cost of feeds, including concentrates. Do these things and the livestock industry will do the big job that lies ahead.

Cereals Cannot Suffice

NO ONE WILL DENY THAT CEREALS contribute necessary elements, and, most particularly, the benefits of roughage, to the human diet. But the case for the many new-fangled and emergency substitutes as balanced against a meat-complete diet does not stand up. Admittedly, such foods contain proteins, essential for proper sustenance, and on that score the manufacturers assiduously plug their products. But what about the seven or eight other component ingredients of meat—elements found in no other food or substitute in the well-rounded combination that meat offers? It is in itself practically the perfect food, as illustrated by the experience of Stefansson and others who lived years in the Arctic on an exclusive meat diet and maintained their health.

The people of the United States, especially, have always been large consumers of meat. We have not remained meat-eaters through the years merely because we liked the taste of what we were eating. There is more to proper eating than taste, which we agree is highly important. In meat we have one of the most delicious ways extant of keeping ourselves alive; but in meat we find also every element required for nutrition and good health.

Our country's lands are more than one-half taken up by the growth of grass. In that fact lies our greatest wealth of food conversion. Despite recent disclosures that man can profitably include seaweed and many forms of grass in his diet, it has not been claimed by even the most radical scientists that these could ever form a properly balanced diet, if used exclusively. Yet the bovine animal, for instance, feeds and grows on grasses and converts these natural foods in the most efficient way that has yet been devised. Thus meat provides the least expensive, yet the most vital, type of food for the simplicity of the production means involved.

The less-privileged peoples of China and India may be taken as examples of the deficiencies suffered in grain-eating nations. In those countries are to be found largely poverty and the most meager standards of living—and very low health ratings. It is an almost inescapable conclusion that if these peo-

ple could be fed properly, with a meat-constituted diet, their health, collectively, must show great improvement. It would also follow that, with better health, their lot in life itself would improve. With health would come strength—strength to work their lands which have grown fallow and unproductive with years of languid disinterest and improper operation.

The cry that has risen from men in our defense industries—shipyards and airplane-factory workers particularly on the West Coast—has been a justifiable one. Their cry has been for more meat—not for more sugar, not for more coffee, nor for more cereals. It is the difficulty to obtain meat which is the cause of their dissatisfaction. Without meat, they complain, they cannot perform their heavy duties. There, in the work that means either life or death, it seems to us, is one of the strongest arguments yet put forth for the need of meat in the diet.

Least Regulation Best

ONLY A FEW PEOPLE WILL SAY that business should be allowed free play in markets thrown wide open for everything a nation at war needs. Most of us believe that regulations are necessary. In the meat producing industry we have had them now for more than a year. And they have been put there, of course, in the interest of an efficient prosecution of the war. Their purpose has been to limit prices to the consumer; to give him his fair share of available supply; to furnish the armed forces with their needs; and, we assume, to keep production on a high level. But the high purpose has failed. Prices have been held down, but a black market charging exorbitant prices has flourished; distribution to consumers has at times been in a deplorable state when whole sections have had to do without meat; the armed forces have at times had to take less than their orders called for; production through feeding has been discouraged.

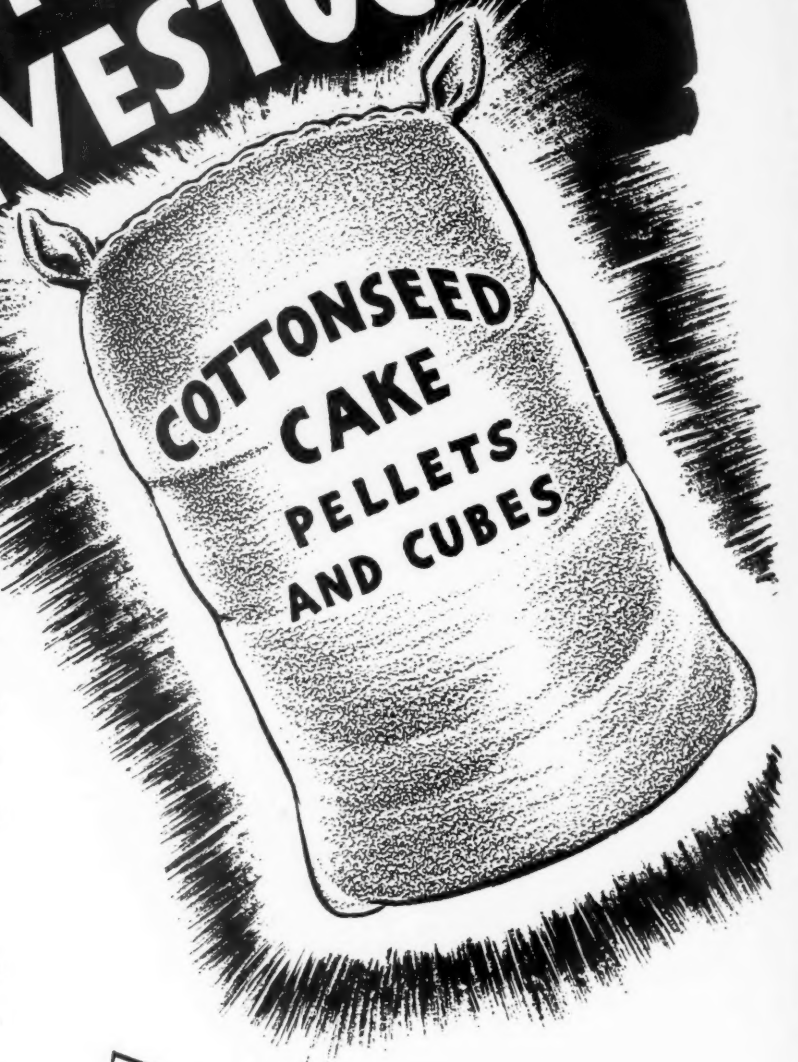
The trouble of course has been in the regulations, for the livestock and meat industry has been in the best condition to supply huge demands for meat. But the root of the trouble lies in the fallacy that, if a little regulation is a good thing, more of it is better. And we do not doubt that Washington even now, in the midst of its worries over a seasonal increase in meat supply and concern over future meat shortages, is thinking up new regulations.

The simple remedy for most if not all of these troubles would be for Washington to take into its confidence the

(Continued on page 28)



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KANSAS CITY CONFERENCE

Stockmen Restate Their Program For Sound Management of Meat

MANY CONGRESSMEN AND THE public now have a better idea of what has been wrong in the meat situation in the country. They know now, too, that there is a remedy for it. The ills—too many impractical regulations from Washington—and the remedy—a simple meat management plan that would license slaughterers and ration meat to civilians—keynoted a conference of livestock men at Kansas City last month, where gravely, without harangue, practical stockmen listed the faults and the dangers of the government's planning in the livestock producing business. More than 2,000 producers and feeders and numerous processors and state governors, and members of Congress from livestock producing states listened attentively. Twenty-seven states were represented in stockman attendance.

The conference was arranged through the help of the American National Live Stock Association, with Secretary F. E. Mollin as a member of the steering committee, at previous meetings in Kansas City and Amarillo, Tex. Will J. Miller, secretary of the Kansas Livestock Association, was secretary of the conference.

"We are not here to pick bones about present livestock prices," W. A. Cochel of the *Kansas City Weekly Star* and president of the conference, said, "But we are here to work out a satisfactory solution to the present muddled situation and to present the plan of the War Meat Board which we believe will result in proper adjustments between producers, feeders, and consumers when those in charge of such matters have full and definite information of all the factors entering into the subject." Mr. Cochel's and the other speakers' addresses will be found on pages following.

Confidence Lost

"The livestock industry has had a marketing system so sensitive that price balanced demand against supply almost to the single animal, but into this delicate machinery OPA simply hauled off and tossed a monkey wrench." That, in the words of C. J. Abbott, Hyannis, Neb., opening speaker in the conference, is what is wrong. As a result, he said, meat supplies have declined and will continue to decline unless something is done to influence the feeder to purchase stock. "Confidence in the administration of meat production has been lost by both producers and feeders," and the administration must re-establish this confidence by allowing the meat management program to function, he said.

It was about a year ago when the gov-

ernment set out on its plans—ceilings, quotas, and many other regulations—for the meat producing business. That's when the trouble started. Price rises in meat were retarded, it is true, but black markets, with their exorbitant prices, emerged; packers by the hundreds had to close; feeders had to curtail their feeding operations; and fair distribution of available meat became a memory. And these troubles, outlined by Frank S. Boice, president of the American National Live Stock Association, are to be corrected by more controls "laid on top of the control which has just failed."

The Meat Management Plan

Mr. Boice explained the meat management plan, which was developed by the livestock and meat industry last April and accepted by the War Food Administration, the OPA, and the quartermaster general. The War Meat Board was set up to carry it out. But that's all.

Mr. Boice wanted it understood that the industry's meat management plan is simple. "It proposes two, and only two, controls: licensing of commercial slaughterers and civilian rationing. We have both these controls now; no new control is added. Rather, the plan proposes that once meat management becomes fully effective, such controls as price ceilings on meat, set-aside orders, and packer quotas go into the discard. They will have become entirely unnecessary."

The first would hold down the black market; the second would insure supplies for government first and then elsewhere as needed and would, with a sliding ration point value, make the government master of the price situation.

Then, "with a stockpile of processed and frozen meats, the government will buy lightly when market receipts are short and draw on its stockpile for the remainder of its needs, and, when the receipts are heavy, it will buy heavily . . . The price of any kind, cut, or grade of meat can be established and controlled . . . and with wholesale price of meat controlled the retail price will be controlled. . . ."

"In controlling meat prices according to the meat management plan, it will free the livestock and meat industry from arbitrary control and restore it to a normal competitive basis. That in itself will produce the meat the nation so very greatly needs." Mr. Boice's address was broadcast nationally on the Farm and Home Hour.

Livestock, of course, must have feed, and feed is a commodity that is not too

abundant now. But there is a fair amount of it in the country, and to get his equitable share is the deepest concern of the stockman. The subject was discussed by John R. Jirdon of Morrill, Neb., but mainly from the lamb feeders' standpoint. Mr. Jirdon spoke for the Colorado and Nebraska Lamb Feeders' Association. He criticized the government for causing a sharp shortage of sugar beet by-products that normally have been used in feeding 1,500,000 lambs in the Colorado-Nebraska area. He forecast liquidation of sheep flocks if the government fails to come through with plans for improving the feed situation. The conference, in its resolutions, asked the CCC immediately to make an announcement of a program for the impartial distribution of protein concentrates from the 1943-44 crop.

Earl Elijah, Clarence, Iowa, spoke on the hog growing and corn price situation. He said he would like to see corn price ceilings discarded, even though he might be injured personally. "I believe such action would bring livestock and feed supplies into balance more quickly than any scheme that Washington economists can devise."

Sees Signs of Co-operation

Sen. Joseph C. O'Mahoney, of Wyoming, told the conference, "I have been informed by long distance telephone today that I could say here, without reservation, that it will be the purpose of the OPA to work with the War Meat Board." Senator O'Mahoney believed the action of the War Food Administration in relaxing slaughter quota regulations on the packer indicated that Marvin Jones, WFA administrator, is making every possible effort to co-operate with the livestock industry.

Congressman Clifford Hope, of Kansas, declared that the present plight of agriculture was directly traceable to OPA, in starting at the wrong end to regulate prices of farm products—beginning at the consumer level regardless of whether or not a sufficient amount of consumer dollars trickled back to the producer to keep up production.

Joe O'Bryan, Hiattville, Kans., said that the threat of ceilings on live animals has done much to demoralize that branch of the industry. He pleaded for a price not like the ones in the last war, but sufficient to return cost of production and a fair profit on hog growing. He wanted assurance that the OPA would let the farmer know where he stands on corn price.

Mayor Fiorello H. LaGuardia, of New York, was present. He said, "Our price ceilings don't mean a thing. In New York we are not bothered by ceiling prices. We can't buy a piece of meat in New York at the ceiling price. Our legitimate dealers have to buy their

meat to sell at higher figures than the ceilings they are supposed to sell under. . . . If we thought we could get our meat within 6 cents of the authorized rolled-back price, I'd sign up right now with you for all the meat that 7,000,000 people could eat."

Harry Coffee, president of the Omaha Stock Yards, urged abandonment of the price rollback and restoration of the wholesale and retail levels in existence prior to the advent of the subsidy era. He said that stockmen have confidence in the war board and that the government should use this agency to guide meat production.

The Resolutions

The conference through the unanimous adoption of resolutions presented by a committee headed by Cal Floyd, of Kansas, urged that the "responsible government agencies dealing with the war food program clear the track so that the War Meat Board can properly function and in the meantime see that threats of further government controls which would hamper rather than help be immediately stopped."

A strong protest to the "loose thinking and loose talking of those who in the name of the war emergency, would seek to make impractical changes which would be disastrous to the country as a whole and could only seriously hamper the war effort itself," and the suggestion to Congress that it "take such action as would insure a discontinuance of the present subsidy-rollback program and put a stop to the efforts to expand it" were listed among the resolutions adopted.

Other resolutions were as follows:

That this conference urge congressmen present to form a committee to interest itself in the problems of the livestock industry and demand that the administrative officials take immediate steps to restore confidence in the industry and to assure maximum meat production during the coming feeding season;

That the Commodity Credit Corporation make an immediate announcement of a program for the equitable distribution of protein concentrates from the 1943-44 crop and that producers and feeders be allowed to buy the product in the customary form and protein content;

That Commodity Credit Corporation honor claims filed by feeders for loss suffered when that agency recently cancelled contracts for cake and meal purchases and advanced prices \$10 to \$12 per ton;

That ceilings on hides and other by-products be raised "to a reasonable level" as a partial measure of relief under rising costs of production;

That the War Food Administration be commended for its action in suspending meat quotas for 60 days and that this order be made permanent;

That the charge of hoarding by stockmen is "nothing but a smoke screen to cover up bungling" since new records in meat production starting in 1940 have been set each year;

That there be no tinkering with the marketing structure and that the threat of live animal ceilings be removed from the livestock picture;

That the administration must accept "full responsibility" should a meat shortage develop next winter and spring, in view of record numbers of livestock and fairly adequate supplies of coarse grains and proteins;

That "Congress, the direct representative of the people, should again assume the responsibility for law-making and that there be a cessation of law-making by executive order except in case of extreme emergency;"

That larger quantities of blackstrap molasses be released for feeding purposes;

That the restriction on sugar beet growing be eliminated and a price be set to encourage planting of normal acreage.

To Encourage a Plan For Adequate Supplies

By CHARIMAN W. A. COCHEL

LATE IN JULY WHEN CONCENTRATES were unavailable and feeders were finding it difficult to secure corn, the agricultural department of the Kansas City Chamber of Commerce invited representatives of livestock associations, colleges of agriculture, and state agriculture statisticians to present the situation as it affected this territory. A full day's discussion brought no definite conclusions or plan of action. Later the livestock producers who attended this meeting requested that a committee representing the states from the Mississippi to the Rocky Mountains meet and arrange for a conference of producers and feeders who could present their side of the story to governors, senators, and representatives just in advance of the opening of Congress. This assemblage is the result of such efforts.

The primary purpose of this meeting is to encourage a program which will insure adequate supplies of meat for military forces, for necessary lend-lease commitments, and leave as much as possible for civilian uses.

It is not the purpose to give vent to complaints and difficulties of the past but to present a clear picture of the present situation so that the industry can function efficiently with a minimum amount of friction from rules and regulations established without full consideration of their ultimate effects.

Livestock men are most anxious to make their full contribution to the war effort. They are not going to strike but will attempt to operate at capacity,

limited only by the available supply of feed and labor and the ability of processors and transportation agencies to handle their products. They do fear the hazard of impractical government regulations.

This conference was not called to protest against prices. We will present the plan of the War Meat Board which we believe will result in proper adjustments between producers, feeders, and consumers when those in charge of such matters have full and definite information of all the factors which enter into the subject. It will not be possible here to determine the prices of beef, cattle, feeder cattle, hogs, lambs, corn, or concentrates.

It is generally recognized that the total number of meat animals on the farms and ranches has reached a record. It is also recognized that the production of grass, roughage, grains, and concentrates has not kept pace with the increase in livestock. Record numbers however, do not insure maximum production of meats.

The production of meat will depend upon the most efficient use of feeds available. Thin cattle may dress out less than 50 per cent with carcasses that yield a high percentage of bone and a low percentage of meat. Properly fed and handled, they will gain 300 pounds or more, dress out 60 per cent, yielding carcasses of high quality, and provide almost double the amount of meat.

Hogs can be slaughtered at any weight from 160 pounds up. The heavier hogs will yield a maximum proportion of lard as well as an increase in meat.

Lambs can be marketed at weights from 60 pounds up to 110 pounds. The proportional amount of meat increases with their weight.

These examples indicate that there is a possible variation of 50 per cent or more in the meat that can be produced from the livestock now on hand.

The feed available properly distributed will encourage maximum production unless restrictions discourage producers and feeders.

The program arranged should bring out this information so that those not directly engaged in the industry may appreciate the possible developments.

The Plan for Solving Our War Meat Problems

By FRANK S. BOICE

WE HAVE BEEN LISTENING TO a review of the chaotic condition which exists today in the production phase of the livestock and meat industry and, if time permitted, it could be shown that an even worse condition exists in the processing and distribution phase of the industry. This condition is the direct result of the attempt by

AMERICAN CATTLE PRODUCER

Washington officials to control the price of meat by rigid wholesale and retail price ceilings. This whole effort must be called a failure; for, while it is true that increase in the price of meat has been retarded, it is also true that a flourishing black market in meat has developed where exorbitant prices are paid, that hundreds of meat packing plants throughout the country have been forced to close or operate on a severely restricted basis, that cattle feeders by the thousands have lost confidence in the meat policy of the government and are planning more curtailment or the entire abandonment of their feeding operations, and that the equitable distribution of available meat which we have a right to expect even in wartime has become only a fond memory.

In attempting to correct this deplorable situation, Washington, which sometimes recognizes its failure but never admits it, is thinking in terms of more controls for the industry, added layer on layer, each new control to be laid on top of the control which has just failed. A price ceiling on hogs has already been announced; price ceilings on slaughter cattle and lambs they continue to talk about but have not as yet quite the nerve to try; allocation of supplies of livestock to packers—a control which necessarily goes with livestock ceilings; price ceilings on feeder cattle and lambs; permits to ship livestock; yes, even orders to ship. That is the route we will travel if we follow this line of Washington thinking. And when we have this imposing array of controls complete, the whole must inevitably fail just as each level of control must fail, and for the same reasons.

Route to Regimentation

Or if we follow another line of Washington thinking, we will begin by having the government as the sole buyer of slaughter livestock, allocating supplies to the packing plants for processing and distribution according to orders, paying for livestock and charging for meat whatever it sees fit. A beautiful set-up for price rollback and consumer subsidy! And it will end quickly in the complete regimentation of the entire livestock and meat industry.

Faced with this kind of thinking in Washington and realizing that controls which come from such thinking must lead to a serious breakdown in the meat-making process, the livestock and meat industry began early the development of a program of its own for control of meat prices. The industry recognized clearly that our nation must have economic stabilization if it was to fight a great war without serious inflation and that economic stabilization meant that meat prices must be controlled and that the industry must produce livestock, prepare them for slaughter, process them, and distribute the meat to the public at or close to the existing retail price level.

Any unbiased study of the record of price control and civilian rationing of

meat will show clearly certain facts which must not be disregarded in the formulation of a workable plan. It will show that each control has decreased production and diverted meat into the black market, that further controls will continue to decrease production and divert more and more meat and livestock into black markets, that rationing will never provide an equitable distribution of the meat available to civilians as long as we have rigid price ceilings on meat and packer quotas for the civilian trade, and that the fundamental cause of the failure of the control of meat prices is the fact that the civilian demand for meat, due to the civilians' increased purchasing power, greatly exceeds the supply of meat available to the public at the ceiling price.

Minimum Control Necessary

From these facts and considerations it follows that a workable plan for controlling meat prices must provide for a minimum of control for the industry, that controlled prices must be flexible and in line with government price policy, and that the total demand for meat must at all times be kept in balance with the supply currently available. The livestock and meat industry has developed such a plan—a meat management plan which has been accepted by the War Food Administration, the Office of Price Administration, and the director of economic stabilization. These agencies have signed a memorandum of agreement by which they have set up a War Meat Board to administer meat management. Government is represented on this board by men who understand price and rationing policies, our armed forces are represented by a man who has had a long experience in supplying the Army with meat, and there are men on the board who know meat from the top down to the smallest technical detail. This kind of board may be depended upon to make decisions which will be based on experience instead of theory and to be practical in all its actions.

We are all dressed up and ready to go, and yet we seem to get nowhere. The War Food Administration is showing that it is lukewarm to meat management and that it is unwilling or unable to fight for it. The Office of Price Administration, in announcing a price ceiling on hogs and in its refusal to announce that there will be no price ceilings on cattle, is showing clearly that it will not allow meat management to work and that it is going to insist on more and more control of the industry. It would seem that OPA has the backing of, or is taking orders from, that little group of men around the President who really make policy. Our only recourse under these conditions is to take meat management to the members of Congress and to the public. If the men who make policy will not listen to the representatives of the livestock and meat industry, perhaps they will listen to you.

It is my purpose here today to explain

how meat management will work under the direction of the War Meat Board if given a chance.

Management Plan Simple

The meat management plan is a simple plan. Let us get that fact clearly in mind at the start. All of us think of the livestock and meat industry as highly complex and very difficult to understand in all its ramifications, and we are likely to assume that any plan for the control of meat prices must be equally complex and difficult. Such is not the case. Meat management is simple; easily understood by anyone. It proposes two, and only two, controls: licensing of commercial slaughterers and civilian rationing. We have both these controls now. No new control is added. Rather, the plan proposes that, once meat management becomes fully effective, such controls as price ceilings on meat, set-aside orders, and packer quotas go into the discard. They will have become entirely unnecessary.

The War Meat Board must do three things if it is to operate the meat management plan successfully. It must see to it that our armed forces get their full requirements of meat when they want it and as they want it and that our fighting Allies get the amount of meat necessary to fill their reasonable needs; it must keep the price of meat to the consuming public in line with government price policy; and it must see that the maximum amount of meat is produced consistent with our supplies of livestock and feed.

Let us examine how the board will accomplish these three objectives. All the facilities of the government, the meat packing companies, the marketing agencies, and the livestock producer organizations will be available to the board to assist in determining the supply of meat which will become available during any given period. This assistance should give the board reasonably accurate information as to the supplies of meat which may be expected. This much meat and no more will be allocated to the three groups who need meat. Our armed forces can determine their requirements for the period, and the government will buy it from the packers. Our commitments under lend-lease for delivery of meat to our Allies during the period can be determined, and the government will buy it while buying for the armed forces. And then the ration point value of meat will be so adjusted that civilians can buy the remainder of the estimated supply but no more.

In practice, the supply of meat which becomes available will never be quite the same as the estimates indicated, and for that reason government buying must be flexible—prepared to buy all meats not taken by the rationed civilian trade. In reality, rationing creates an artificial surplus of meat in the hands of meat packers, all of which the government must buy for our armed forces and for our Allies. Adjustment of the point

value of the different kinds and cuts of meat will make of this surplus exactly the meat in both kind and quantity that the government needs.

To see how this will work, let us assume that the government is not getting enough bacon. The point value of bacon is raised. That is notice to us on the home front that our fighting men or our fighting Allies need more bacon. We decrease our purchases of bacon, so do our retail meat dealers, and the packer, who now cannot sell as much bacon to the civilian trade, sells more of it to the government. It also works the other way. If the government, which under the meat management plan must buy all the surplus created by rationing, is having to buy more bacon than it needs, the point value of bacon is lowered, and the bacon which is not needed by the government is taken by the civilian trade. By adjustments such as this the War Meat Board will see to it that our armed forces and our Allies get the meat which they require.

It is quite obvious that the board cannot operate freely and with any degree of confidence until it has built up a large stockpile of processed and frozen meats. From a military standpoint, this is absolutely necessary in order that unforeseen demands may be met promptly. It is also necessary if too frequent change in point values of meat is to be avoided. With such a stockpile, the government will buy lightly when market receipts are short and draw on its stockpile for the remainder of its needs, and, when market receipts are heavy, the government will buy heavily to meet current requirements and to rebuild its reserves. This reserve of meat will act as a kind of a shock absorber to guarantee an even flow of meat to our armed forces, to our Allies, and to civilians.

Plan Controls Prices

Of the things which the board must accomplish, more people perhaps are skeptical of its ability to control prices than of any other phase of its work, but this in reality is also a simple operation. Let us assume that in line with government policy it has been determined that a price of 30 cents per pound at wholesale should be paid for ham. The government offers to buy all ham offered to it at 30 cents. Over in the south part of the city we have a very enterprising meat packer intent on making some money who tries to sell ham to one of his retailers at 32 cents. But this retailer is informed of what is going on and he stalls off the salesman of the first packer, calls the packer over on the north side on the phone and asks the price of ham. This packer, knowing full well that the retailers to whom he sells are having a tough time moving their ham because there are not enough ration tickets among their customers to absorb it all, offers to sell at 31 cents. But there are other packers and branch houses close by and all have ham to sell. After shopping around a bit, our re-

tailer buys ham at the government price of 30 cents or very, very close to it. Civilian rationing has created an artificial surplus of ham and co-ordinated government buying and normal competitive forces have established and will control the price.

The price of any kind, cut, or grade of meat can be established and controlled in the same way, but it does not follow that they must all be so established and controlled. Such detailed control is entirely unnecessary. The board need control only the prices of the principal wholesale cuts at one grade, and normal competition will establish the price of the other grades. It will also control the prices of all related cuts.

With the wholesale price of meat controlled in this way, the retail price will be controlled just as it has always been controlled in the past—by normal competitive forces. If all retailers may buy in a given area at approximately the same price, then no one of them could for long use too large a mark-up. If he tried it he would soon lose his customers and destroy his business.

Will Aid in Distribution

This kind of price control will allow competitive forces to establish price differentials between different communities and different sections of the country and will thus insure an adequate flow of meat to the places where ration stamps are held. In the past, these sensitive, quickly changing price differentials between the different communities and sections of the country, which resulted from the free play of competitive forces, gave this country the finest meat distribution system in the world. Rigid price ceilings, arbitrary differentials between areas, and packer quotas have destroyed that system, and utter chaos in distribution has resulted. Price control under meat management will restore our old distribution system and we will again have an even distribution of the meat available to civilians.

The third task of the War Meat Board—seeing to it that we get the maximum production of meat consistent with our supplies of livestock and feed—is in reality no task at all. In controlling meat prices according to the meat management plan it will free the livestock and meat industry from arbitrary control and restore it to a normal competitive basis. That in itself will produce the meat the nation so very greatly needs.

It was stated a few moments ago that under meat management only two controls were necessary—licensing of commercial slaughterers and civilian rationing. But neither of these touches directly the production of meat. Rationing is necessary to control the enormous civilian demand for meat so that the government can obtain its requirements, and the licensing of slaughterers is necessary to dry up the black market by keeping all meat supplies in legitimate channels.

But the livestock and meat industry under meat management will be free of all arbitrary control. Retail margins, packer margins, and cattle feeder margins will re-establish themselves adequately under the free play of competitive forces, and under these restored competitive conditions the industry will unquestionably produce the maximum amount of meat possible consistent with livestock numbers and feed supplies.

Plan Has Nation-Wide Approval

That, in brief outline, is the meat management plan developed by the livestock and meat industry. It has the enthusiastic approval of livestock men, market men, packers, and retailers from one end of this country to the other. Those of us who have spent a lifetime in different phases of the industry and therefore know it best are convinced beyond the shadow of a doubt that meat management will work. Only that small group of theorists that still control OPA policy and their backers higher up stand in the way. They are insisting on the complete control and regimentation of the industry from top to bottom, even though that leads to disaster. It is time Congress and the public took a hand.

An informed public opinion is the only way to change a stubborn, hard-headed bureaucracy. Our purpose here today has been to give you the facts of the meat situation and to outline to you the proposal of the livestock and meat industry for solution of the problem. We ask that, when you have thought the problem through, you demand that the Washington agencies involved give wholehearted support and encouragement to the War Meat Board in its efforts to control meat prices by sound meat management.

EXPLAINS GENERAL CATTLE SITUATION

By CHRIS J. ABBOTT

(This address, as well as all the following made at the Kansas City conference, are published here only in excerpt form. Space does not permit a full report.—Ed.)

FOOD IS A PRIME MUNITION OF war, of morale, and of health itself. We are assembled here today to discuss the problems of the livestock industry. I am very appreciative of the distinction that has been accorded me by being asked to address so eminent an audience.

The ranches and farms which our family own and which I manage produce hundreds of head of the three principal meat animals, hogs, cattle, and sheep. I must also confess that we also sell quantities of chickens, eggs, and cream. I must also mention another qualification which should lend some authority to what I have to say—a small slaughterhouse at Hyannis.

Most of us agree the food plan has been improperly handled and that some

AMERICAN CATTLE PRODUCER

drastic changes must be made if we are to increase food production in a great many lines, notably meats. In fact, a release of the Department of Agriculture on August 16 quotes the findings of a subcommittee of the Food Advisory Committee as follows:

"The most immediate and impressive gains can be made through better use of existing resources of land, labor, and equipment and through shifting resources from certain crops and livestock enterprises to others. In general, foods for direct consumption yield more nutrients for the resources employed than livestock enterprises; and dairy enterprises are usually more efficient nutrient producers than meat."

It would appear that the experts, who have fashioned our regulations and our prices desire to reduce the production of meat, while another group of experts in propaganda try to convince meat consumers that cattlemen and others are purposely withholding supplies from the market.

In order to understand what is wrong and how the situation might be improved, it is necessary to comprehend something about the production of beef. There are more than 6,000,000 farms in the United States, the majority of which produce some kind of meat. The dairyman in New York or California, as well as the midwestern ranchman, is a cattle producer. His cattle product is a milk cow's calf or the milk cow herself when she reaches the age of retirement. Too many of us think of beef as steer meat. Calves are divided almost half and half as to sex; when you eat a piece of any kind of meat, there is one chance in two that it is from a female. All beef is good beef, the tenderest, heifer and young steer. Not many calves are butchered; mostly they are grown to sizable animals on grass or grain before they are slaughtered. It is here that the complications regarding the regulation of beef production begin to set in, for the man whose cow produces a calf may sell it to another who buys it because he thinks it will be profitable to bring it to greater weight on grass, who in turn may sell it to yet another.

Long-Time Process

The slowness of beef production and the complexity of the part that specialists play in it seem to be most difficult for the consumer to understand. Steers gain about 750 pounds per year on grain and about 250 pounds per year on grass; heifers somewhat less. It is necessary to feed a calf a year, a yearling about nine months, a two-year-old about six months, and a three-year-old about 90 days in order to have a finished beef. Consequently the younger the cattle, the higher the finishing cost to the feeder and the higher the selling price of the cattle as meat. Let me emphasize that the only reason that the meat business is not more seasonal is because we have distribution between grass cattle producers and grain finish-

ers. There is absolutely no hoarding, as has been charged.

From my foregoing remarks, you can readily see that the beef industry is very complex, with an everyday adjustment of prices between grades and kinds. The rancher is a specialist in the production of feeders, often producing calves in the dead of winter when each cow and calf must have a special stall. The feeder is a specialist in fattening, while at the markets there are hundreds of specialists in grading and selling animals.

Largest Industry in World

The meat industry in the United States is the largest industry in the world. Millions of people are engaged in producing, marketing, and processing and otherwise distributing meat animals. On the average, 40,000 head have been slaughtered daily, six days a week, during the past year. Notwithstanding the complexity of an industry whose produce is so highly perishable, where thousands of traders both at wholesale and retail trade daily, where competition is so intense that there is always livestock for sale and where livestock can instantly be converted into cash, a marketing system that is so sensitive that prices balance demand against supply almost to the single animal, a marketing system that is the envy of every other country in the world, I say, notwithstanding the existence of this perfect machine so delicately balanced, OPA simply hauled off and tossed a monkey wrench into its vital mechanism. Only a bureaucrat could be willful enough or stupid enough to fix retail price ceilings on meats during Lent, when there was as much as 10 cents per pound difference between the cities of Boston and Philadelphia. This is exactly what was done, and ever since then, markets have not followed the pattern with which all producers are familiar, that of supply and demand, but instead have depended upon the regulation, news, and propaganda from Washington.

As a result of all this, the official estimate of the cattle on feed August 1 as set forth by the Department of Agriculture is 11 per cent smaller than it was August 1 last year. But this report fails to point out that the number of cattle on feed August 1 last year was only 81 per cent of the number on feed the year before. Thus we find that only 72 per cent of the cattle are on feed this August 1, 1943, as compared with August 1, 1941. There are a number of reasons for this, and, in order to explain them clearly, I should like to discuss, first, some economics of cattle production, second, fiscal and monetary policies that are retarding the production of beef.

The economics of cattle production have changed from the old days of the four- and five-year-old grass-fat steer to a condition such that at the opening of this war very few breeders carried

their steers on grass past the time that they were yearlings and many sold them to the feeders as calves. The housewife brought this about by demanding a highly finished small cut of beef. This demand was so insistent that feeders would at times pay as much as 5 cents per pound live weight more for calves than they would for three-year-old steers. Consequently, the few ranchers who have grown cattle on the ranges to heavy weights have done so at a penalty. Price ceilings have changed all this; the heavy type steer is now the animal that is at a premium simply because it requires a minimum of costly grain to finish the animal that is older and heavier. Many who have not produced them formerly are now wanting again to get into production.

Price ceilings have brought about another condition that is yet more difficult to explain. The price being paid for cull cattle is nearly as high as for the best ones. Bulls and cutter cows were very high a month ago in comparison with good classes. I hesitate to say anything about this for fear that another bureaucrat will issue another regulation. But it is a factor that is retarding production, simply because the tendency among producers is to sell the product that is out of line and hold the one that is too low.

The charge of hoarding, among other accusations, has been leveled at the cattlemen by the propagandists of the government, notwithstanding the report of the Food Advisory Committee which must be influencing government policy to a considerable extent. While I think that this committee is wrong in its advice to shift from the production of livestock, yet there is considerable to be said for the utilization of all the grass. If the war is to be a long war, then we had better be well prepared, with plenty of cattle grown to heavy weights for use in the future. But if there is a reasonable certainty that the war will be over in two or three years, then we should try to bring about an acceleration of the feeding process. Production of beef would seem to be advisable, because no other animal has the ability to grow on grass and produce such a large quantity of meat with such a small proportion of grain feeding.

I have tried to show that under the present governmental policy as to price ceilings, the natural thing for a producer to do is to increase the cattle population for a time at least by carrying every animal for a longer period on grass.

Government Policies Interfering

The fiscal and monetary policies of the government which are retarding the production of beef are: (1) the extremely high surtax rates; (2) the excess profits tax on corporation; (3) the belief by many that the paper dollar will steadily diminish in value.

So far as I know, every large commercial feeder is out of business. They

can hardly be blamed for not taking great risks for the little profit that would accrue to them under the present extremely heavy taxes. The history of their business in so-called normal times has not been such as to give them much confidence, and present regulations make their dealings even more hazardous.

Those operators whose business is incorporated face about the same set of conditions, except that their tax is either a flat 90 per cent on profits greater than they can establish as being formerly earned on the average by their corporation, or above an 8 per cent return on their capital invested.

So much for the tax situation as it applies to the feeder. The large range operator is confronted with about the same problem, plus the problem of paper profits if his inventory is conservatively valued. He can sell only a part of what he would otherwise sell each year if the taxes did not practically confiscate his property.

Into the fourth division of difficulties that have beset beef production, something should be said about the difficulty of obtaining enough protein concentrates to get the most economical gains in the feed-lots and for winter feed on the range, and our fear of live animal ceilings.

Meat cannot be produced economically or efficiently without the use of protein concentrates. It is true that alfalfa hay supplies some of this deficiency, but it

is not available in many feeding areas.

Fear of live animal ceilings has been a bugaboo of our industry since the beginning of price control. Many cattle producers feel that live animal ceilings would be the last straw.

Summary

The production of beef and other meats depends upon the teamwork of millions of producers who must be led and not driven.

Increased production of beef can best be brought about by encouragement to cattle feeders.

We are now at the period of the year when feed-lots must be filled if we are to have beef next winter. Therefore, something must be done, and done immediately, to influence the feeder to purchase stock. Prices make no difference. What we all want is production.

By illustration, I tried to prove that cattle will be carried on the range to greater weights unless the feeder is induced to buy them.

The theory of the bureaucrats that cows should be liquidated and all young steers grown on the range is wrong. Cattle should be moved from the range to the feed-lots in greater numbers and must be in order to increase the supply of good beef. Beef production can be greatly expanded.

It will be necessary to assure feeders of an adequate supply of grain and concentrates. If it becomes necessary to

change the prices on items of cost, beef ceilings must immediately be modified accordingly.

Confidence in the administration of meat production has been lost by both producers and feeders. Unless the administration can re-establish this confidence, supplies of meat will continue to decline.

Discussing Problem From Corn Standpoint

By EARL ELIJAH

IN THE JULY 19 ISSUE OF A MAGAZINE of national circulation appeared a picture of a bunch of hogs virtually bedded down with shelled corn. Under the picture was the caption, "Farmers prefer to waste corn on livestock rather than sell at ceiling prices."

Now we might quarrel with that picture and its caption from several different angles: First, the picture was not typical of farm practice; second, the manner of statement of the caption was poor journalism, in that it was intended to prejudice the reader before he even started to read the accompanying article; third, the statement, if not deliberately so, was still 100 per cent untrue. Since when is corn fed to livestock considered wasted?

Just what is the situation that con-

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Cutter Pelmenal contains both the organism which causes true hemorrhagic septicemia and the one to which pulmonary infections associated with shipping fever are often ascribed.

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fronts us food producers of the nation? More specifically—how do plans for producing livestock and livestock products stack up against the total probable feed supply available to carry out those plans? Just what are you and I, and those who would advise us, up against for the next twelve months?

I am supposed to approach the problem from the standpoint of corn. Supplies of corn and demands for it are so closely related to other grains for livestock feeding that it seems advisable to consider the problem from the standpoint of the total supply of feed grains reduced to the equivalent corn units. The other inseparable factor is, of course, the probable supply of livestock to which this corn must be fed.

Just where have our feed grains gone? Figures by the USDA, estimating the percentage of total feed grain disappearance by livestock classes for the 1942-43 crop year, give us for the nation as a whole the following proportions: Dairy cows, 12.3 per cent; poultry, 18.6 per cent; beef cattle, 12.2 per cent; hogs, 47.8 per cent; sheep, 0.4 per cent; and horses and mules, 8.7 per cent.

We beef cattle feeders who have been accused—and perhaps justly so—of wasting corn in putting excess tallow on beef, will be surprised at this figure of only 12.2 per cent of the total grain feed supply fed to livestock as being fed to beef animals. It is variously es-

timated that only from 4 to 6 per cent of the total corn supply is used in the finishing process of beef.

We cattle feeders thought we had a pretty big industry, but, compared with poultry, we use only about two-thirds as much feed grains—12.2 per cent as compared with 18.6 per cent for poultry. Never again am I going to speak lightly of “just chicken feed.”

Probably we can save some corn by producing fewer prime steers and by eating more red meat developed by feeding a larger proportion of roughage to our cattle; but plainly a big enough saving of feed grains by this curtailment will not be sufficient to solve the feed problem which confronts us.

National Feed Picture

A few quotations from Leslie M. Carl, senior agricultural statistician at Des Moines, Ia., give us a general picture of the situation.

Speaking of the national picture:

There will be more livestock on the farms of the nation this fall than there was a year ago, despite the fact that livestock production last year was the highest on record. . . . The supply of feed grains will be about 6,000,000 tons less. . . . There will be less hay for this winter's feeding. The supply of protein supplements will be a little larger but there will be less grain and protein feeds per animal unit than a year ago.

E. O. Heady, economist at Iowa State

College, paints a similar picture.

He finds that if all classes of livestock were the same as last year except for hogs, and assuming a 15 per cent increase in fall pigs, we will be short 458,000,000 bushels of corn or corn equivalent in feed grain to get the job done.

In arriving at these figures, Mr. Heady has based his computations on the improved corn estimates of August 1. The date of the first killing frost can appreciably alter this estimate in either direction. Mr. Heady also includes in his figures the probability that 75,000,000 bushels of corn grain equivalent will be imported from Canada and that 50,000,000 bushels of wheat will be exported to the Caribbean area.

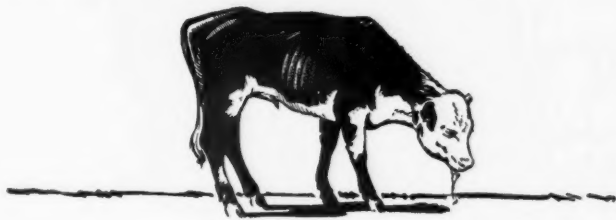
The above figures are based on the assumption that hogs will be fed out to the same average weight as last year.

In making our production plans for 1943 we farmers were told by AAA and by the various agricultural extension agencies that we could not produce too many hogs for the demand. This is probably still true.

We were exhorted to feed to heavier weights, which we did so vigorously that many cars of prime steam-rendered lard are going at the present time for manufacture of soap. Whether pork producers were impelled by patriotic or by profit motives makes little difference in the results. We have done what we were asked to do.

Don't let the name deceive you!

Whether you're shipping or not,
your stock can still get
"SHIPPING FEVER"!



So-called "shipping fever" is not necessarily a shipping disease. True, the hardships associated with shipping are real offenders—in weakening the animal, and thus making it a prey to the organisms of "shipping fever."

However, any condition that has a tendency to devitalize and lower the animal's resistance can bring on this costly, highly infectious disease. Severe climatic changes on your own range can do it. Long hard drives to and

from winter and summer ranges, or drastic changes in feed, too, can bring on the trouble just as surely as shipment.

Some Stockmen Know This . . .

More and more cattlemen are getting smart about hemorrhagic septicemia (shipping fever) . . . just as they got smart about blackleg. They've found they can lick it with Cutter PELMENAL . . . and routine vaccination. Just as they've licked blackleg . . . by routine vaccination with Cutter Blacklegol.

PELMENAL, you know, is chemically fortified like Blacklegol. Aluminum hydroxide adsorption feeds the vaccine into the animal's tissues more slowly, acts like repeated small doses of ordinary vaccines.

In Your Particular Locality . . .

Maybe you're taking shipping fever losses every year. Why not stop the trouble before it starts? Vaccinate seasonally—get the habit of using Cutter PELMENAL routinely!

Please bear with us . . . if there are occasional short delays in obtaining Cutter Products. The war comes first—and our production of vaccines, serums, antitoxins, intravenous solutions, blood plasma, etc., for the men of the armed forces naturally is calling for the greater part of our facilities.

If your local veterinarian or drug store cannot supply you, order direct from nearest Cutter branch . . .
Los Angeles • Seattle • Ft. Worth • San Antonio • Denver • Calgary • Regina • Vancouver • Winnipeg

Now we are being asked to market hogs at lighter weights in order to conserve feed supplies. We can readily see why that should be done, but how can that request be implemented into action? What will induce the farmer with a ceiling price of less than \$1 a bushel on his corn, with healthy hogs in his pasture or lots and a guaranteed Chicago price of at least \$13.75 per cwt. for his 240-270-pound hogs to market his pigs at 200 to 225 pounds? I believe he will be inclined to continue to "waste" corn by feeding it to his livestock.

Seventy per cent of the corn grown in Iowa is consumed on the farm where it is produced. With present rulings restricting movement of corn, it is very likely that an even higher percentage will be fed in the neighborhood where it is produced. I very much fear that with the present relationship of corn and hogs, the governors of some of our eastern poultry and dairy-producing states will continue to be peeved at us Iowa farmers for not sending our corn east.

The livestock and feed grain picture being what it is, it does not require a very smart brain to conclude that the corn situation in the deficit corn areas will likely become even more acute next spring and summer than it has been during the last few weeks.

Price floors are relatively easy to maintain, where storage space is available for a non-perishable commodity like corn, but price ceilings are something else. With so many thousand producers, enforcement of ceilings on corn would require a police force many times larger than the one which failed to enforce the Volstead Act.

It is not an easy task for those who would control our economy to get adequate livestock production and at the same time keep it in proper balance with feed supplies.

I have pointed out how present price relationships of corn and hogs create an incentive to feed hogs to heavier weights than seem desirable under present conditions. Lighter weight market hogs seem the most promising means of stretching the supply of feed grains. Now, how shall we induce farmers to market at lighter weights?

I do not want higher price ceilings on corn. I have heard no corn producer claim that ceilings are too low. Any ceilings restrict the movement of corn and keep the producer wondering just when the ceilings will be raised. Pressure of circumstances tends to make crooks of all of us in the eyes of the law.

Although I might be injured personally, I would like to see corn price ceilings entirely removed. I believe such action would bring livestock and feed supplies into balance more quickly than any scheme that any Washington economist can devise.

Inflation! someone cries. Let us see.

For those who feed only their own grain, the controlled price of livestock and livestock products would continue to be the limiting factor in determining profits. Those who buy corn to feed, if it is assumed that corn prices would go higher, would make less profits. The commercial corn grower and the speculator are the only ones who would stand to gain. I am not much worried about the commercial corn grower. Many of them are trying to win back the homes they lost during the depression following the first World War. As to the speculator, especially the grain speculator, our government seems to have found ways to deal with him quite adequately.

The dairyman and the poultryman present a different problem. If they cannot produce with the resulting corn prices, they should be provided for.

If our consumers getting the highest income in history are not able to pay living prices to producers of dairy and poultry products, are we to subsidize them? No one should go hungry. I doubt if corn prices without ceilings would rise as much as many people seem to fear. If the dairyman and the poultryman cannot afford to pay more, and with the fat-cattle producer already "in the dog-house," it leaves only the hog producer among the livestock men to exert any considerable influence on corn prices. Before corn prices go above \$1.25 per bushel on the farm, you will see a lot of light hogs go to market. It will be a much harder job for the powers-that-be to maintain the floor price on hogs than it has been to hold a ceiling.

Hog Growers Ask Only Fair Return

By JOE O'BRYAN

WE ALL KNOW OF THE PRICE regulation imposed on hogs and pork products at the present—we know these regulations are prompted by the idea to hold prices in line and to regulate the flow of pork to our armies and to our Allies and to provide an equal distribution to the people of our own country.

We have been told that the price of hogs must be held down and held in line with other prices. We have been told that without price regulation meat prices will spiral upward, causing all prices to go higher and bring on inflation.

I do not know all the angles of the inflation business, but I do know that livestock men, cattlemen as well as hog men, have been ruined by high prices—not the high price itself, but the inevitable drop in price that follows a high time.

Livestock men do not ask or want prices like the ones in the other war. We do not want this thing called infla-

tion. But we do want a fair return for our hogs. We must have a price for our hogs above the corn-hog ratio. We must have a price high enough to take us through the risks and chances that often come. We must have a price high enough to keep our farms and equipment in shape and in repair.

For a group to set a price on hogs determined on the ratio of corn to hog price just doesn't make sense to a farmer—not to a farmer who has seen a whole crop go in a few weeks to a cholera plague. To raise his pigs this farmer has to move his hogs to clean ground, sit up day and night with the sows at farrowing, carefully feed and care for the pigs, struggle to get protein and grain to finish the hogs. He feels he deserves a fair price for his 84-hour week; a fair price for his work and for his farm and a return for his family which has worked beside him.

Here is what we hog men are up against with a hog ceiling: No price ceiling can be fair to all of us, as our conditions are so different. Iowa, Illinois, and Indiana have entirely different conditions from those in Kansas, most of Missouri, and Nebraska and Oklahoma.

Then, most important of all, with a price ceiling we naturally would have a price low enough to insure all packers a profit. Then the packer, small or large, would want all the hogs at ceiling price. Then the OPA would have to step in and allot certain numbers to each packer. To do this it must control the supply of hogs to the market. So a permit system comes into being. Each farmer would have to get a permit from the OPA telling him where he can market his hogs and when he can market them. We all know that when a farmer has to go before the board to get a permit telling him where and when he can sell his hogs he will just not see it that way.

There is another alternative under a set price ceiling for live hogs. That is for the government to buy all livestock for allocation to the packer for processing. That would mean but one customer—a single bidder for all the livestock produced in the United States. We livestock men and farmers have seen enough of the government in business to know this sort of thing just won't work to anyone's satisfaction.

Just a short year ago the government said to the hog men—and to sheepmen and cattlemen too, "Produce all you can, and still it won't be enough to feed our armies and our people and our Allies." Now, we have been insulted by a flood of government-inspired propaganda directed against the hog producer and the hog business.

With the increase in corn price ceiling and a hold-the-line order on hog prices, the hog man has not been treated honestly. And think, didn't the hog man respond to an increase in hog pro-

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MoorMan-fed cattle on the Davidson Ranch.
Charles E. Davidson, Jr., in foreground.

"Our Calf Crop Has Been Noticeably Increased" Reports Judge Charles E. Davidson After Feeding MOORMAN'S RANGE MINERALS

AS COUNTY Judge of Crockett County, Texas, for more than 30 years, Judge Charles E. Davidson knows the law. As operator of one of West Texas' big ranches he likewise knows cattle, and what is good for them.

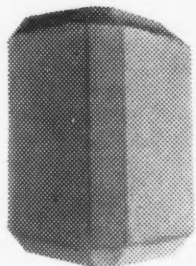
This is exactly what Judge Davidson has to say about feeding cattle MoorMan's Range Minerals:

"We have been using MoorMan's Range Minerals for our cattle since September, 1941, and are highly pleased with the results we have obtained.

"Our calf crop from our breeding cows has been noticeably increased."

You, too, can make money with MoorMan's Range Minerals. For immediate information on this profit-making idea, just use the coupon.

EASY . . . ECONOMICAL TO FEED THIS WAY!



The body and bone building values in MoorMan's Minerals for cattle are available in two easy-to-use forms—powder and 50-lb. blocks. Blocks are especially favored for range feeding because they are so easy to use—are soft enough for easy self-feeding, yet highly weather resistant and not nearly as wasteful as powder or pellets. Ten to fifteen cents per head per month is all it costs.

MoorMan's
MINERAL FEEDS

MOORMAN MFG. CO., DEPT. P-102, QUINCY, ILLINOIS



JUDGE DAVIDSON (at right)

Moorman Mfg. Co.—Dept. P-102—Quincy, Ill.

Rush facts about MoorMan feeding for:

- () Range Cattle () Range Sheep () Fat Cattle
() Fat Lambs () Dairy Cows () Hogs
() Horses () Poultry

Name.....

Address or R. F. D.....

County..... Post Office..... State.....

duction? In just a year we have more hogs than feed—or so we are told.

It has been made to appear that hog raisers have unpatriotically and by subversive methods seized control of the corn supply. Corn Belt cattle feeders have exactly the same chance at the corn crop as do the hog feeders. Their feed-lots are empty from choice. It won't take too much of what has been going on to get hog production into exactly the same situation. Then there will be even less meat—much less. From all through the hog territory we hear of sows and more sows once held to raise pigs now being sent to the packers.

We have never heard of too much pork—just not enough corn for the hog supply. I hope Congress stops telling the farmer he will get \$1.30 for his corn if Congress allows OPA to hold the price around \$1. Let the farmer know where he stands on this corn price.

We plan to continue to raise hogs—many hogs. However, we must cut our numbers if we do not get an assurance from the government—a definite assurance that our hogs will be taken at a fair value.

Today the picture is not bright for the hog man. Thousands of sows destined to raise fall pigs have gone to market. I think the fall pig crop will be very short and a definite shortage of pork is in store as soon as our present crop of spring pigs is marketed this fall and winter. A definite plan to handle the next spring pig crop must be determined now, so that we hog men can go ahead and produce to capacity. A definite assurance that the hogs will be bought at a favorable price is all the hog men ask.

Let the farmer have sufficient help, adequate machinery, and a definite assurance of a fair return, and he will produce pork, beef, and lamb—he will produce food for all.

Effect of Planning on Lamb Feeding Industry

By JOHN R. JIRDON

I AM APPEARING BEFORE YOU today as president of the Colorado-Nebraska Lamb Feeders Association. Under normal conditions and in normal times, around 5,500,000 lambs are fattened for market in the dry feed-lots of the country and about 1,000,000 head are fattened on wheat pastures in the Southwest. This portion of the lamb crop is known as winter fed lambs and they are marketed during the first four months of the year; namely, January, February, March, and April. In normal times approximately 1,500,000 of these lambs are fattened for markets by the members of our association located in Colorado, western Nebraska, and eastern Wyoming, in the irrigated regions of these

states. The total annual slaughter of lambs approximates 22,000,000 head. From these figures you can see that approximately 70 per cent of the lamb crop carries sufficient flesh and finish to be available for slaughter direct from the ranges and farms of the country. The lambs which the members of our association purchase and fatten for market are known as feeder lambs. These lambs have little relative value for slaughter, as they come from the western ranges, and so we are performing an essential service in providing a market for these animals and carrying on a program of fattening to make them available for market during the first four months of the year when practically no lambs from any other source are available to supply the market.

Depended on Sugar By-Product

There are many reasons why the lamb feeding industry has grown to present proportions in our area of the country. We used to produce in these irrigated regions large tonnages of sugar beet by-products. However, the volume of these sugar beet by-products will be reduced by 35 per cent as compared with last season in our area because of government control and the hostile attitude toward the production of sugar beets by the present administration. It now advocates further cuts in sugar beet production. An average acre of sugar beets provides sufficient feed by-products to produce 300 pounds of beef or lamb as compared with about 275 pounds of beef or lamb produced from an average acre of corn, so that livestock producers of the country are vitally interested in sugar beet production. Every acre of sugar beets taken out of production means the loss of a market for a feeder steer or 8 to 10 feeder lambs, and it means the loss of 300 pounds of beef or lamb to the nation's food supply together with the loss of about 3,800 pounds of sugar for the tables of the nation.

Government agencies have found an effective way of strangling the sugar beet industry by controlling prices. This season these prices were set so low that the anticipated return from an acre of beets was sufficiently less than the attractive prices guaranteed for potatoes and beans that the producers shifted their acres to these other crops—and this all happened at a time when it was necessary to ration the sugar supply of this nation.

Weather conditions are much more favorable for lamb feeding in our section of the country than in other areas because of the light precipitation during this season, permitting us to have dry feed-lots which are desirable for economical fattening of lambs. However, we cannot carry on a normal lamb feeding program without the importation into our area of reasonable amounts of corn and protein concentrates. The products we grow on our farms are feeds which will provide for growth, but

in order properly to balance our rations we must import concentrated feeds. Under present regulations of the Office of Price Administration there is no assurance that we will be able to import corn under the ceilings which have been placed on corn in surplus producing areas. It is much more profitable for the surplus corn producer to withhold this corn from market and feed it to hogs. The same conditions apply to protein concentrates. Although the cotton crop promises to be about the same size as last year, southern cottonseed mills are advising us now that they do not expect to be able to ship more than a limited quantity of cottonseed meal to the livestock producing sections of the country.

These are the reasons why at the present time there are practically no feeding lambs under contract from the western producers by the members of our association, and liquidation of western breeding sheep has already set in because of the inability of these people to secure concentrated feeds for wintering. Unless conditions change, you will undoubtedly see the largest liquidation of western breeding herds in history.

What are the remedies to this situation? When ceilings on lamb carcasses were proposed, a representative of our association was called to Washington, at which time we were permitted to present our views. At that time our association suggested that a graduated ceiling be placed on lamb carcasses, permitting the price to rise gradually from January until April to cover the higher cost of production during that period. If you will go back over a period of years you will find that under normal conditions the prices of lambs gradually advanced from January until April, and this advance is justified, due to the high cost of production during this period. The officials of the Office of Price Administration refused to establish anything but a rigid ceiling.

Graduated Ceiling Needed

If our Army and Navy and our civilian population are to be supplied with lamb carcasses during the first four months of next year, two things must be done immediately to encourage the feeding of lambs. First, a graduated ceiling must be established to take care of the higher cost of production during this period, and it must be done now to relieve the uncertainty and to encourage feeders to purchase lambs from the western range man. Second, the ceilings and methods of distribution on corn and concentrates must be revised west of the Missouri River in such a manner that we will have assurance that we can purchase these supplies from the new crop. If this uncertainty is not removed, lamb feeding will be restricted to the present volume of feeds which have been grown on our own farms, and lamb feeding operation in our section of the country will be reduced by more than 50 per cent. We believe that the wartime meat

(Continued on Page 24)



WHAT'S A STEER WORTH?

Some people say a steer is worth what it costs to produce, plus a profit—but every business man, whether he be a farmer or a merchant, knows that anything is worth only what somebody will pay for it and its cost is a minor factor.

Do the producers of steers, hogs and sheep get the full value of their animals when they sell them at the nation's market places? The answer to that question depends on these factors:

- (1) How much the consuming public is willing to pay for the products which are made from the meat animal.
- (2) What portion of the consumer's dollar goes back to the producer?
- (3) Is the work of converting live animals into meat and by-products performed efficiently?

- (4) How much profit does the packer get?

Approximately 75 per cent of what packers receive for meat and by-products goes back to the producers of livestock.

The efficiency of the packing industry is generally recognized and few industries are able to maintain themselves on as small a portion of their total income as is the packing industry.

Packers' profits over a long period of years have averaged less than two cents per dollar of sales and less than 6 per cent on capital invested in plants, equipment, etc. The smallness of packers' profits and the large portion of the total revenue which goes back to the producers are positive evidence that natural laws of competition and good business management are operating to make a steer net its producer all that the public says it is worth.



ARMOUR AND COMPANY

PUBLIC LAND HEARINGS

AN AMAZING PATTERN OF GOVERNMENT bureaus running riot; the formation of boards within boards and committees upon committees; flagrant abuses of executive power; action which Chairman McCarran termed closely akin to fraud; arbitrary decisions oftentimes of a petty and childish nature—all these charges, and more, were unrolled before a capacity crowd of stockmen when Sen. Pat McCarran, as head of the subcommittee of the Senate Public Lands Committee, conducted at Albuquerque, N. M., on



Sen. Pat McCarran

September 7-9, a hearing into matters affecting public lands within the state of New Mexico under the authority granted in Senate Resolution 241. The subcommittee heard strong indictments against present methods of administering public lands and multiple charges of mismanagement and inefficient exercising of split authority. Highlighted in the testimony were the secret formation of grazing district No. 7 without hearing or notice to any of the interested parties; the purchase and diversion to Indian use of soil conservation lands in defiance of existing laws prohibiting additions to Indian reservations without congressional action; the efforts to drive the long-time white occupants off lands promised to be held for them.

Attention also was given to endorsing the bill sponsored by the American Na-

tional Live Stock Association giving legal status to forest advisory boards and insuring stability of operation upon forest lands. The opposition of state officials and the livestock industry to S. 1152, which would give federal authorities certain jurisdiction over game on public lands within the state were also stressed. McCarran prepared a telegram to be sent to Army officials in Washington protesting against the establishment of a gunnery range in southeastern New Mexico, which would drive some 35 families from their ranch homes and make impossible the successful operation of their ranches.

The senator stated the purpose of the hearing was "to receive suggestions for the betterment of the public land administration."

Following testimony by ranchers regarding conditions in Taylor Grazing District 7, Chairman McCarran charged that dealings of the Indian Bureau were but "little short of fraud," in speaking about the purchase of New Mexico grazing land for Indian use. Explaining that though Congress had disapproved any enlargement of the Navajo reservation, the bureau "made use of the Indian allotment plan to block out land off the reservation which Congress had refused to grant the reservation," McCarran charged the Indian Bureau with resorting to "an interpretation of a law which was never intended by any act of Congress."

A. D. Brownfield, Florida, N. M., rancher and first vice-president of the American National Live Stock Association, spoke for the livestock men, assailing Soil Conservation Service control over grazing and strongly urging that such control be abolished and authority returned to the Grazing Service. As argument against additional government acquisition of lands in New Mexico, Brownfield cited disturbance of the tax base.

F. E. Mollin, executive secretary of the American National, urged establishment of a national public lands policy to avoid continued buying of land by so many federal agencies. "Nobody knows what is going on," he said, "and it is appalling when we find out what has been done. With so many overlapping agencies, how may we, or even the government, know how many federal agents are needed to determine the carrying capacity of a piece of range land?"

Senator McCarran's subcommittee, holding two-day hearings August 30-31, at Fredonia, Ariz., heard testimony of many witnesses. Attendance was close to 200 stockmen and representatives of the federal bureaus. Statements were made to show that thousands of acres of good grazing lands are included within the national parks set up by act of Congress and monuments set up by presidential proclamation, "and the vicious thing about their administration is that no permit for grazing extends beyond the lifetime of the present permittee." Thus, long established several-generation families who have made proper use of that grazing land will be put completely out of business upon the death of the present owner.

Efforts of livestock men who attended the hearings bore fruit two days later at Phoenix when an agreement was made between the Park Service and the Division of Grazing whereby the Division of Grazing will handle grazing in the Boulder Dam and Lake Mead recreational area under permits and licenses, just as it does on grazing districts.

NATIONAL FOOD CONFERENCE

A national food conference sponsored by Frank Gannett, newspaper publisher of Rochester, N. Y., urged Congress in a meeting in Chicago, Sept. 18, to enact legislation accomplishing the following objectives:

GOOD HERDS DESERVE THIS PROTECTION



If you are not yet using Straub biologicals, send for catalog and complete instructions. They are easy and simple to use.

Straub Vaccines and Bacterins have meant dependable protection for many fine herds for almost a quarter century. No matter how large or small your herd, it deserves the dependable efficacy of these triple-tested, health-guarding biologicals.

Bacterins and Vaccines since 1919

W. F. STRAUB & COMPANY

BIOLOGIC LABORATORIES

JEFFERSON PARK P. O.

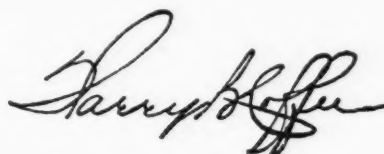
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

THE 2-WAY MARKET IS YOUR LOGICAL MARKET

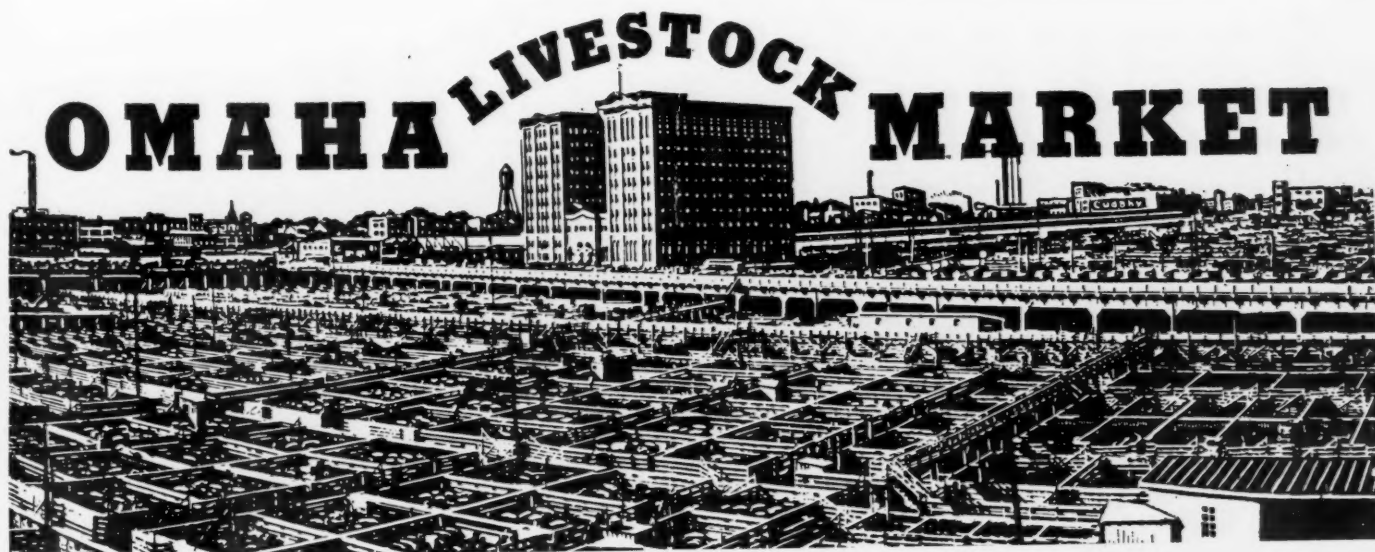
Omaha offers the Western producer a dependable, two-way competitive market—for Omaha is BOTH the world's second-largest beef packing center and the second-largest feeder cattle market. The combined demand for grass-fat cattle for slaughter AND feeder cattle for the corn-belt reacts to your advantage when you ship to Omaha—your Logical Market.

Lambs, too, are finding an expanding packer and feeder demand here.

UNION STOCKYARDS COMPANY
OF OMAHA, (LTD.)



PRESIDENT



Meat Movies Train Cooks

Films prepared by the Signal Corps, in co-operation with the Quartermaster Corps and under the technical supervision of National Livestock and Meat Board specialists, are being employed to train student cooks at Army bakers' and cooks' schools throughout the country. This medium of visual instruction is designed principally to aid in preliminary training of the men who will handle meat for the Army. Producing the films included the work of writing scenarios and scripts and actual filming of the pictures, and the subjects treated are (1) Care and Handling of Meat Tools; (2) Cutting a Beef Hindquarter; (3) Cutting a Beef Forequarter; (4) Cutting Lamb; (5) Cutting Veal and Pork; and, (6) Cooking and Carving Meat.

1. Fair prices at the market place instead of the present system of subsidies which tend to place food production and distribution under bureaucratic control.

2. That no rollback or prices be financed out of government funds and no subsidies, either direct or by subterfuge, be paid.

3. Obtain maximum production as the best means to halt inflation. Protect consumers and militate against further growth of black markets.

4. When increased production is requested by the government, floor prices must be guaranteed on all such commodities to insure against loss of those assuming such war risk.

5. Timely provision for skilled labor, necessary machinery supplies and equipment must be made.

R. C. Pollock, general manager of the National Live Stock and Meat Board, addressing the conference on Sept. 17, said that the advocacy of a new diet consisting mostly of grains and cereals "constitutes a threat to the health of the nation" and that such a policy would seriously hinder the livestock and meat industry in meeting its wartime obligations.

He pointed out that stockmen, responding to a call from the government for more meat, have produced this food in record-breaking quantities, from an annual 16,700,000,000 pounds in the 1931-40 period, to 19,500,000,000 in 1941 and 21,500,000,000 in 1942; that meat is recognized as the No. 1 food item in the meals of fighting men; and that after the war there will be a demand for meat in liberated countries until flocks and herds can be established.

Chris Abbott, Hyannis, Neb., in a talk before the conference said that, unless the people bring an end to bureaucratic meddling, meat production on farms and ranches will continue to decline. He recommended the abolishment of the OPA and placing of the food program under one qualified man.

Livestock Tax Committee

A NATIONAL LIVESTOCK TAX Committee is now in operation. Plans for such a group were started at a meeting in Amarillo on August 11. Confirmation came at a meeting of delegates from state cattle, wool growers, and breed record associations in Kansas City on September 1.

Frank S. Boice, president of the American National Live Stock Association, was named chairman and F. E. Mollin, secretary of that organization, secretary-treasurer. It will be sponsored by the two national cattle and sheep associations and most, if not all, of their affiliated state units. Representatives of breed record associations will also be included in the committee. One member from each such unit will form the full committee.

A steering committee of nine, with Mr. Boice as chairman, was authorized to carry on the active work of the committee. The first step in the matter is to secure an audience with Commissioner of Internal Revenue Helvering to urge that the constant unit inventory value method be approved as one way of reporting income tax returns. Further action in the matter will depend upon the result of this conference.

There is now no uniformity in the administration of the regulations governing income tax returns for livestock breeding ranches, and the committee will endeavor to end this confusion.

The committee will be prepared to give attention to other livestock tax problems of general interest, such as further relief for those taxpayers who have been forced, because of drought conditions, to liquidate breeding herds.

NATIONAL WOOL GROWERS' SECRETARY RESIGNS

Fred R. Marshall, for 23 years secretary of the National Wool Growers' Association, has resigned his position. He has been succeeded by J. M. "Casey" Jones as acting secretary. Mr. Jones has been assistant secretary of the wool growers' association for the past several years. Ill health was the reason for Mr. Marshall's resigning. He plans to take a rest for several months. Mr. Marshall was born in Ontario, Canada, where he was educated. He taught in the animal husbandry departments of colleges in Iowa, Texas, and Ohio, and headed the husbandry department at the University of California. Later he took charge of sheep work at the United States Bureau of Animal Industry.

OPPOSES MEAT RATE CASE

Resolution adopted by the Klamath Wool Growers' Association, meeting at Klamath Falls, Ore., Sept. 1, opposed opening of the westbound meat rate case. Any opening now would affect the war operations of many stockmen and packers, the resolution recited.

CALENDAR

OCTOBER—

- 6—C. W. Denton sale, Chadron, Neb.
- 11—Wyoming Hereford Ranch sale, Cheyenne, Wyo.
- 13—Zero Hereford Ranch auction, Sutherland, Neb.
- 13—Central Nebraska Hereford Assn. sale, Broken Bow.
- 19—C. P. Anders Hereford auction, White River, S. D.
- 19-20—N. D. Hereford Assn. show and sale, Bismarck.
- 20—Midwest Hereford Assn. sale, Holyoke, Colo.
- 22—Northern Colorado Hereford Breeders' auction, Greeley.
- 22-23—Idaho Cattlemen's fall sale, Twin Falls.
- 25—Mousel Bros. sale, Cambridge, Neb.
- 26—Mousel & Coder sale, Wellfleet, Neb.
- 26-27—W. E. Chapman Co. Hereford sale, Joseph, Ore.
- 28—Ogallala Hereford Assn. Sale, Ogallala, Neb.
- 28-29—Chadron Hereford show and sale, Chadron, Neb.

NOVEMBER—

- 2—Triple U Hereford Ranch sale, Gettysburg, S. D.
- 4-5—Cornhusker Futurity, Broken Bow, Neb.
- 4—Black Hills Hereford Ranch sale, Belle Fourche, S. D.
- 5—Black Hills Hereford Ranch sale, Rapid City, S. D.
- 15-16—Northwest Hereford Breeders' Assn. sale, La Grande, Ore.
- 22—Western Nebraska Hereford Assn. Sale, Alliance.
- 29-Dec. 2—Chicago Market Fat Stock and Carlot Competition, Chicago.

JANUARY—

- 10—Turner Ranch sale, Sulphur, Okla.

MARCH—

- 10-19—Southwestern Exposition and Fat Stock Show, Fort Worth, Texas.

Slaughter Statistics

Livestock growers and feeders responded to the nation's wartime demand for meat to the tune of 248 cattle, hogs, and sheep, on the average, slaughtered each minute last year. Meat production averaged 58,800,000 pounds per day. Over-all slaughter of meat animals during 1942 in the United States totaled 130,161,000 head—by far the greatest number for any year in history. Another all-time high was the record-breaking meat production total of 21,460,000,000 pounds, which exceeded the 1941 figure by 2,000,000,000 pounds. Consumption of meat also showed a gain of 2.6 pounds per capita over 1941, and came to 146.5 pounds a person. This included meat for the armed forces.

AMERICAN CATTLE PRODUCER

WASHINGTON

Washington Notes

CLARIFICATION OF THE GOVERNMENT's policies and more practical plans for the production of food is the crying need of agriculture today. Particularly in meat is an outline needed for future production. Without it, maximum output is impossible, even though the industry during the past year of much government experimenting has turned out a record amount of the product.

To get this idea across to Washington, feeders and growers staged the biggest of all their conferences in Kansas City in early September. There, addressing themselves to the public and Washington-bound congressmen, they pointed out the dangers of some of the government's regulations and attitudes having to do with meat, and proposed a practical plan for managing meat. A full report of what they said is printed in this PRODUCER.

Subsidies

In the resolutions adopted, the stockmen at Kansas City expressed opposition to subsidies—a subject that may soon be opened up in Congress when it considers the request for an 18-month extension of the life of the Commodity

Credit Corporation and a \$1,000,000,000 fund to finance farm production during 1944. Subsidies have been talked about a great deal in Washington. Perhaps the ambitious wholesale program to purchase and resell farm products has been shelved, but a number of new schemes that fall under the head of subsidy have been offered. "Redemption" is the name of one of them. It would call for loans to farmers at a level that would bring forth production. The notes would be non-recourse. The War Food Administration could call the loan at any time and accept as payment the current ceiling price set by the Office of Price Administration. The ceiling would be adjusted to assure movement of crops to market. The plan was proposed for potatoes. Another possibility is that handlers and processors of food would buy from growers at a support price and resell to consumers at a lower price, with the government absorbing the loss. Such are the schemes to hold living costs down to the levels of Sept. 15, 1942—the level demanded by the labor organizations.

More specific along this line are the new price rollbacks for apples, onions, potatoes, oranges, lard, vegetable oils,

and peanut butter and the announced dairy food subsidy under which dairy-men will be paid 25 to 50 cents a cwt. of fluid milk to offset increased costs of production. But the latest information is that the subsidy program is not to apply to all products, but only to specific "war crops."

New Manager

On the other hand, words and action of General Manager Chester Bowles of the OPA have been designed to bolster up and have bolstered up the sagging standing of that agency. A report was released recently showing the progress made in "liquidating" the legal staff of the OPA, reducing the payroll, simplifying price regulations, and a working friendship with business. Decentralization of authority has been favored by Manager Bowles. Agriculture was told of the establishment of farm advisory committees.

But on Sept. 11, after about a two-months' delay, the OPA announced a price ceiling of \$14.75 on live hogs to become effective Oct. 4. The floor price had previously been lowered from \$13.75 to \$12.50 (Chicago basis), effective, however, not until Oct. 1, 1944. As to a ceiling on live cattle, the tidings now seem to be that it may be put on when a "practical" method is found.

In a WFA outline of the 1944 farm program, a reduction of 20 per cent in hog numbers is called for,

'a real string of bulls'

that's what you can say of the 30 head you will find in the

WHR ANNUAL SALE

Monday, October 11, 1 p.m.

at the ranch 7 miles east of Cheyenne

WYOMING HEREFORD RANCH

CHEYENNE, WYO.

Feeder buyers everywhere want WHR quality. WHR bulls on the range are responsible for the production of 30,000,000 lbs. of beef annually.

Use WHR bulls for best results

Bob Lazear, Mgr.



Temporary Relief

Suspension for 60 days of quotas on the slaughter of livestock, announced Sept. 1, can provide only temporary relief. The order should be made permanent, producers urge. Quotas are unnecessary under rationing and set-aside regulations and tend to encourage black markets. They unnecessarily increase the transportation burden, since packers in surplus producing areas may not slaughter in volume sufficient to meet local demand under rations, resulting in shipments to other sections, processing there, and then return of the product for consumption. On Sept. 4, inventory con-

trols on slaughterers were also temporarily suspended. But slaughterers must still operate under license, set aside beef for the armed forces, collect ration tickets, stamp their meat, and respect ceiling and floor prices. Until the quota suspension, the large slaughterers were limited in their civilian deliveries of beef and veal to 65 per cent of deliveries during the corresponding periods of 1941 for July, August, and September. Pork slaughterers were limited to 85 per cent and lamb and mutton slaughterers to 90 per cent for September.

Grade Labeling

The Office of Economic Stabilization

in mid-September directed the OPA to enforce the regulation providing for grading and grade labeling of meats. The OPA had announced previously the repeal of its grade labeling requirement on meats and a score of other items, saying that other provisions had been substituted, such as the option given to producers, manufacturers, and wholesalers under a number of regulations to mark the grade on the invoice rather than use a label, and the requirement in some cases of a descriptive label to indicate the contents of an article.

Miscellaneous

Producers are promised a more liberal supply of burlap bags. . . . Preference ratings for delivery of small engines needed in food production has been re-delegated to the county war boards. . . . A substantial increase in the quantity of shotgun and rifle ammunition for use by ranchers will be available this fall. . . . Arrangements have been made to speed up delivery of truck tires to rationing certificate holders. . . . The WPB has granted warehouses in some western states permission to increase their purchases of nails, barbed wire, fence posts, and other steel products. . . . Used hay loaders, side delivery rakes, and manure spreaders have been added to the list of used farm equipment which, when sold by any person, are under price control.

On Buying War Bonds

The financing of the war is the responsibility of every American. It is his duty to buy war bonds. But in buying them because of this duty, he should remember that their purchase serves purposes beyond the war itself. War bonds build depreciation reserves to take care of wear and tear on equipment and buildings; they are a financial reserve against possible times of crisis, bad seasons, depressions; they are a reserve for improvements, a provision for a youngster's future, or a fund for other goals within reach after the war. If he remembers these things he can buy more bonds.

Farm Debt Load Lighter

With the wartime expansions in their incomes, farmers generally have been paying off and reducing farm debts. Preliminary estimates by the Department of Agriculture indicate that in 1942 farm mortgage indebtedness declined by about \$360,000,000, to a total of \$6,350,000,000. Farmers' borrowings on other security also decreased slightly. This is a picture far different from that during World War I, says the Bureau of Agricultural Economics. Agricultural indebtedness then increased sharply. Farm mortgage debt increased from \$4,700,000,000 to \$6,500,000,000 from 1914 to 1918, and other loans from \$1,608,000,000 to \$2,507,000,000.

Fight Shipping Fever

Losses


WITH **GLOBE**

HEMORRHAGIC

SEPTICEMIA

SERUM and

BACTERIN



EACH year there is considerable loss from Hemorrhagic Septicemia . . . or "Shipping Fever" and its pulmonary complications. This year every animal possible should be saved.

You'll help Uncle Sam and yourself by taking early precautions against Shipping Fever losses. You'll probably find it profitable to include the use of Globe Hemorrhagic Septicemia Bacterin in your regular fall vaccination program. If you plan shipments of stock, we suggest you administer dependable Globe Anti-Hemorrhagic Septicemia Serum to your animals at least a week or ten days before shipping.



GLOBE LABORATORIES

FORT WORTH, TEXAS

KANSAS CITY

DENVER

LOS ANGELES

MEMPHIS

LITTLE ROCK

CALGARY, ALTA.

Range Management Highlights

By David F. Costello, Rocky Mountain Forest and Range Experiment Station, Fort Collins, Colo.

Both short-grass and mid-grass range land in southeastern Wyoming which was burned over in November, 1941, contained less soil moisture the following season than adjoining unburned areas. According to a report by the Soil Conservation Service and the University of Wyoming, the fire resulted in decreased forage production and in no way improved the character of the vegetation.

The steer progeny of different beef bulls were found to have different tendencies to bloat when under heavy feeding of grain or concentrates, according to performance tests at United States Range Livestock Experiment Station, Miles City, Mont. The possibility of decreasing the frequency of bloat by selection of sires is indicated.

Logging operations in the timbered areas of the Northwest appear to reduce grazing capacity for a few years, after which forage production builds up to a maximum. A downward trend in grazing capacity starts soon after trees begin to reoccupy the ground.

An adult cow is frequently considered an animal unit for the purpose of expressing forage production and utilization in convenient terms. The percentages of an animal unit for different ages of cattle, according to Vinall and Semple, are as follows: spring calves, 0.25; fall calves, 0.45; yearlings (spring), 0.60; long yearlings (fall), 0.75; two-year-olds (spring), 0.85; three-year-olds (fall), 0.95; adults, 1.

Revegetation in the drier parts of Kansas by spreading the mature hay of native grasses on a prepared seedbed with a manure spreader and packing this material in with a subsurface packer has been found practical by the Agricultural Experiment Station at Fort Hays. The native pasture which supplies the seed must be protected from grazing before mowing, and grazing of the seeded area must not be expected until after the middle of the second season.

Program for Trucks

Joseph B. Eastman, Office of Defense Transportation director, recently announced a plan to establish advisory committees in each of the nation's 142 ODT districts to work out recommendations for efficient use of motor transportation. The committees will include livestock representatives.

In an investigation of pasture yields in Missouri by the state experiment station it was determined that the average production of permanent pastures was the equivalent of 11.2 bushels of corn per acre. Sudan, second-year sweet clover, and barley produced the highest yielding rotation pastures.

Tests conducted at experiment stations in South Dakota have resulted in the recommendation that phosphorus supplements should be fed to beef cattle both in time of drought and during the winter. Roughages grown on phosphorus-deficient soils do not provide proper nutrition. Two parts of bone meal mixed with one part of salt and self-fed make a desirable supplement.

Pasture improvement studies at the Squaw Butte Station, established by the Grazing Service near Burns, Ore., indicate that utilization of more than 65 to 70 per cent of the forage results in steeply progressive weight losses of cattle in late summer. Cattle are reluctant to travel more than one and a quarter miles to abundant forage at this season and destructive overuse of the vegetation near water is common.

Recent surveys of 18,000,000 acres of range land in the plains area of Colorado and Wyoming indicate that the average size of pasture used for livestock grazing by farmers and ranchers is approximately 320 acres.

At a de grubbing experiment on the control of heel flies sponsored by Iowa State College Extension Service, National Live Stock Loss Prevention Board, and United States Bureau of Entomology, it was announced that a loss of 11,500,000 pounds of meat per annum results from grub infestations. Grub-free cattle are worth an average of \$1.25 per head more on the market than are infested animals.

Approximately 500,000,000 fence posts are replaced annually in the United States, according to an estimate by the Department of Agriculture. This number could be greatly reduced if treatments by chemicals such as creosote or chromated zinc chloride were more generally used.

Approximately 1,000 shrubs or browse species have been collected on national forest ranges in the West. Of these, only about 30 are poisonous to livestock.

"Here's my New Corn Picker... and Mother's New Bathroom!"



YES, sir! Mother and I are finally on our way. Uncle Sam showed us how. The more we help the war effort today by buying War Bonds, the more we'll have after the war for improvements and replacements on the farm—like that new corn picker I'll be wanting and a new bathroom for Mother.

Our boy Charlie is over there fighting. The War Bond dollars we're investing to buy him food and clothes and fighting equipment today will be right here waiting for him when he gets back.

Cash When You Need It. War Bonds (Series E) can be redeemed any time after 60 days. Naturally, the longer you hold your Bonds the more money you'll get back. *But you'll never get back less than you put in!* **Back the Attack—Buy Extra War Bonds Now!**

You Get 1/3 More Than You Invest

When held 10 years, War Bonds yield 2.9% interest, compounded semi-annually. You get back \$4 for every \$3!

Buy Bonds from your Bank... Post Office... Mail Carrier... or Farm Organization!

Facts About War Bonds (Series E)

You LEND Uncle Sam:	Upon maturity you get back:
\$18.75	\$25.00
37.50	50.00
75.00	100.00
375.00	500.00
750.00	1,000.00



For America's Future—
For Your Future—
For Your Children's Future—
Invest in War Savings Bonds

This advertisement prepared under the auspices of the War Advertising Council and the U. S. Treasury Department

Transportation Notes

LIVESTOCK TRANSPORTATION FACILITIES will be severely taxed during the fall and winter of 1943-44, according to the Bureau of Agricultural Economics; some expect the situation to become critical. The bureau estimated that the transportation load for all livestock in October, when it probably will be heaviest, will be about 12 per cent greater than in October, 1942. The transportation load in November and December, when hogs are expected to be marketed in largest numbers, will also

be heavy and may even be as great as in October. The increased marketings of livestock compared with a year earlier will have to be handled by a smaller number of trucks and with about the same number of railroad stock cars, the bureau declared.

Livestock trucks available this fall and winter are estimated by the bureau to be from 80 to 85 per cent as many as were available a year earlier in the Corn Belt. Very little information is available on the trucking facilities in other livestock producing areas, but the bureau thinks it probable that in many of these areas the reductions in num-

bers of trucks has been about the same as in the Corn Belt. However, Montana has reported about the same number of trucks as a year earlier.

Special Trains

A recent order by the Interstate Commerce Commission prohibiting the operation of "special expedited freight trains" except under special permit does not apply to livestock shipments, according to Charles E. Blaine, traffic manager for the American National Live Stock Association. Mr. Blaine in a letter to the commission and to the Office of Defense Transportation, explained that many lines in the West, in an effort to move livestock with reasonable dispatch and avoid injury to the animals, have for years moved shipments of 25 or more cars in what has become known as "special trains." He said that if the large volume of livestock moving to feed-lots and markets this fall is not handled in special trains but is moved in non-scheduled trains handling dead freight, thousands of head of livestock will be killed or injured. Concentration of shipments to make up the 25-carload minimum for special trains was urged upon shippers.

Beef, Thickness and Uniformity

In the Bulls That Comprise Our Herd Sire Battery
All of Our Calves, Yearlings and Young Cows Sired by

This has been one of the finest feed years we have ever experienced in the Enterprise section. Our registered Herefords have ranged all summer on the bunch grass range (under fence) that adjoins my meadow pastures. They have taken on the hard flesh from this dry feed and are now in perfect carrying condition for breeding animals. During the time between now and sale dates we will move all of the herd down into the meadow pastures where they can be conveniently inspected at any time up to the morning of the sale, at which time they will all be lotted near the sales pavillion.

We plan to sell a few head as individuals and the bulk of the herd will be sold in convenient lots for truck and rail shipment.

Due to the large number of cattle we must handle the first day of the sale it will be impossible for us to make any sale deliveries that day.

Militant Mixer	Sire: Junior Mixer Dam: Millie Lass
Zonon Lad	Sire: Zon D Era Dam: Bonnie Gay 3d
Zonon Panama Lad	Sire: Zon D Era Dam: Caroline
Real Prince D. 226th	Sire: Real Prince Domino 33d Dam: Pueblos Domineta 34th
Real Prince 84th	Sire: Real Prince Domino 66th Dam: Lady Real 17th
Real Dominant 12th	Sire: Real Prince D 99th Dam: WHR Royal Duchess 42d
Real Dominant 13th	Sire: Real Prince D 99th Dam: WHR Patsy Domino 3d

800 Head Selling At Public Auction

October 26-27, 1943

Our Cattle are all under Federal Health Supervision
W. E. CHAPMAN CO., Joseph, Oregon

LA GRANDE, OREGON SHOW AND SALE

Sponsored by

Northwest Hereford Breeders' Association

NOVEMBER 15-16, 1943

'The Best in the Northwest Will Be Offered Here'

Sale Committee:

**TED GEHRING, Keuterville, Idaho; WILL T. PLATT, Pomeroy, Wash., and HERBERT CHANDLER, Baker, Ore.
BOB TEALE, Sale Mgr., Bollinger Hotel, Lewiston, Idaho
FRED REPPERT, Auctioneer**

Northwest Hereford Breeders' Association

EFFECT OF PLANNING

(Continued from Page 16)

management program which was adopted by the National Livestock and Meat Council, of which I am a member, must be put into effect. The War Meat Board, which was set up at our suggestion, must have authority to function.

The lamb feeders of this country face the hazards of disease to their flocks, the hazard of unfavorable weather, and the hazard of continually increasing labor costs which have more than doubled in the past two years. We know that these conditions prevail with the producers of feeder lambs. We believe that they are entitled to a price for their product that will insure them the return of their cost of operation plus a reasonable profit. As lamb feeders we feel that we are entitled to that consideration.

We believe that government subsidy and dictation of any branch of private enterprise will mean ultimate strangulation of that industry, leading eventually to complete state socialism in this country. We feel that there is much less need for a consumer's food subsidy in this country today than ever before in our history. The income of the wage earners has risen much faster than the cost of food.

Feeders of cattle, hogs, and lambs will remember the farmer hold-the-line order and the famous consumer subsidy and rollback order on meat made into law by executive order without the will or intent of the Congress, and they have a better memory of the fact that prices on live fat animals declined around 10 per cent and ham never recovered from that decline. Who paid the bill? Certainly we have a right to demand that ceiling

AMERICAN CATTLE PRODUCER

prices on meat be restored to the ceilings which were in effect prior to the rollback order.

You cannot encourage production of food unless you permit the food producers of this country to obtain a price for their product which will return cost of production plus a fair margin of profit.

I want to make it plain that there is no such thing as cost of production. If it were possible to secure all the data from every feed yard in the country, it might be possible to arrive at a figure which would represent the average cost of production for a given season, but those figures would not apply for the following season because of the change in weather and labor and feed costs and death loss and other hazards. It is impossible for the feed-lot operators to produce lamb as cheaply as it is produced when lambs are grazed on the wheat fields of Kansas and the Southwest when nature is kind enough to provide the wheat fields with ample growth. If ceilings are placed on the finished products with the intention of reflecting average cost of production, it is easy to see that high-cost producers are forced out of the market. Our arithmetic will prove that if the average cost is used, approximately 50 per cent of the producers will have a cost higher than that average. Consequently, these higher cost producers must cease to operate.

Understand this, that we are very happy to co-operate in any sound methods to curb uncontrolled inflation. Our industry has gone along a good many years risking capital, taking gains and losses as conditions developed, and supplying consumers with lamb and mutton at prices they could afford and were willing to pay. You can rest assured that there will be no inflation, either in the pockets of the sheep producers or the lamb feeders, under the present program and you can rest assured there will be continued liquidation of western

breeding herds and materially reduced lamb feeding operations this coming season. I want to close by quoting from Thomas Jefferson: "Were we directed from Washington when to sow and when to reap, we should soon want bread." The same thing applies to meat.

Growers Cannot Operate at Loss

By FIORELLO LA GUARDIA

WE IN THE EAST UNDERSTAND fully and completely that unless the livestock raiser and feeder can produce without a loss, we don't eat. But unless we can buy, there's no use for you to produce. The first requirement

of all we produce must go to the armed forces for fighting; we are in agreement on that.

If we cannot work and produce in the East so that you will buy from us and, in turn, you sell to us, our whole economic system will crash. We don't want to hoard or gorge. We are only trying to make both ends meet. True, there is a greater consumption in the country today, but that means only that more people are able to eat meat today than at any other time in the history of our country. It does not mean that anyone is being overfed.

Whatever plan you may agree upon, either through the War Meat Board or otherwise, I can assure you it is absolutely necessary for our protection, as well as yours, that there be some

Boys—I'm Selling Out the "Whole Works"

a Complete Dispersion

800 Head of Registered Hereford Cattle

At My Ranch 5 Miles Northeast of

JOSEPH, OREGON, on
October 26-27, 1943

Freddie Chandler, auctioneer—Bob Teale, assisting

W. E. CHAPMAN COMPANY HEREFORDS

(800)
Head

COWS and CALVES

BRED COWS

BRED HEIFERS

YEARLING HEIFERS

WEANER BULL and HEIFER CALVES

150 YEARLING BULLS SELL

(800)
Head

ATTENTION, CATTLEMEN!

If you need top-quality Hereford Bulls or Heifers this fall, we will have them gathered at one location for your convenience.

They will be classified into A, B, C groups by competent judges and sold in that order.

They are consigned by Breeders who own the dams of their entry, thus insuring complete satisfaction. In addition to our Idaho breeders, this year we have invited a limited number of consignors from Oregon, Utah, and Colorado under our regular rules.

The Idaho Cattlemen's Association Sale

Twin Falls Commission Co. Yards

Twin Falls, Idaho

Classification 1:30 P. M.
Friday, October 22, 1943

Sale, 10 A. M.
Saturday, October 23, 1943

ceiling on retail prices. Whatever system you may approve on rationing, to be controlled by the issuance of coupons or rations, you must implement into that plan some assurance that there will be enough meat to honor these coupons. We have the system but not the meat. Under the present system the black market has been created because the legitimate packer or legitimate slaughterer sells, if he sells at ceiling, at a loss, and the retailer cannot get sufficient meat at legitimate ceiling prices. The legitimate retailer then goes into the black market, pays above-ceiling prices, and in turn sells above ceiling prices. Convictions, fines, or jail are not the solution; we must bring about an adjustment.

A great deal was said today about the rollback and its cost, which I am sure was brought about with the best of intentions. We thought you were getting the benefit of it; now you tell us you are not. And let me tell you we are not getting the benefit of it. It seems almost unbelievable, but it is true, with the exception of pork and pork products,

there is very little meat sold in the East at retail ceiling prices. Insofar as New York City is concerned retail ceiling prices don't mean anything.

The identity of the meat must be carried through from the packer right to the retailer's block, accompanied with bills of sale. New York is starting such a program.

On the War Meat Board there should be a representative of the retail trade and one from the consumer. They would be able to keep the meat board informed of the practical application of its plan and abuses.

Government Improving Its Program for Meat

By SEN. JOSEPH C. O'MAHONEY

WHEN I FOUND I WAS COMING to this meeting I sent a wire to Marvin Jones to inquire what had been done about a program I presented to him and Prentiss Brown after Frank

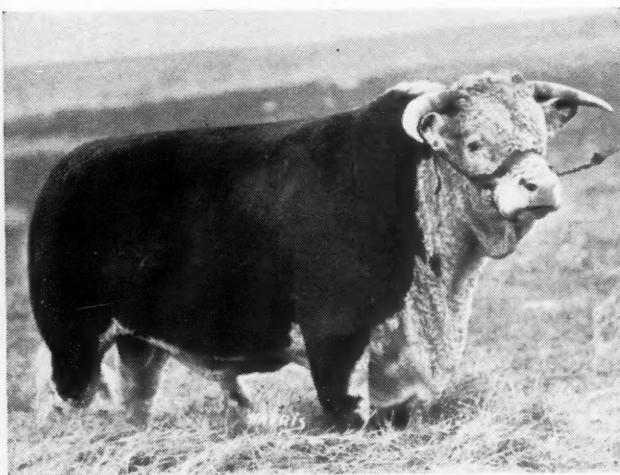
Boice was in my office months ago. I received from Marvin Jones the following message:

"All seven suggestions contained in your memorandum of July 15 have now been put into practice, with the exception of the relaxation of the quota. It is contemplated to do this as soon as practicable. You know the reason for putting it in was to bring cattle through channels where the meat could be obtained for the fighting forces. No other immediate changes are in prospect."

I interpret that last sentence to mean that the fight of the livestock industry against ceilings on live animals is still successful. This morning on my arrival in Kansas City I had this telegram from my secretary:

"Entire program recommended in your memo of July 15 now put into effect with the decision late yesterday to relax quotas. This decision amends Marvin Jones' wire to you of Aug. 31."

So another step forward has been accomplished in bringing about a better distribution of the meat which you sup-



WHR Neptune Domino
Nearly half of the offering is sired by this great bull.

65 Choice Herd and Range Bulls Sell

in our annual sale. These bulls have been selected and reserved for this Special Event to be held

Nov. 2 at Gettysburg, So. Dak.

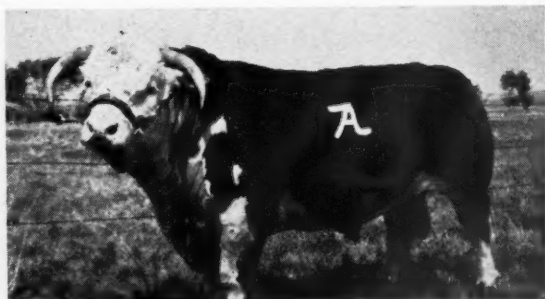
Write for Catalog

Triple U Hereford Ranch

L. R. Houck, Manager Gettysburg, So. Dak.

You can attend these sales in one circuit: Chadron Hereford show and sale, Chadron, Neb., Oct. 28-29; Triple U Bull sale, Gettysburg, So. Dak., Nov. 2; Cornhusker Futurity, Broken Bow, Neb., Nov. 4-5; Sunshine Futurity, Huron, So. Dak., Nov. 7-8.

SELLING



R. D. REAL DOMINO 40TH

Auctioneers Col. A. W. Thompson Clerk
Col. R. G. Eveleth S. N. Fridy

White River, S. D., is located on highway US 83, 55 miles north of Valentine, Neb., 28 miles south of Murdo, S. D., 56 miles west of Winner, S. D.
Good Gravel Roads.

Ninety-seven head, consisting of 30 open heifers from 12 to 18 months of age; 10 bred 2-year-old heifers. These 10 are bred to Prior Mischief No. 3479931, a son of the great Battle Mischief 7th, owned by Ed Belsky, of Merriman, Neb. Ten of the open heifers are sired by R. D. Real Domino 40th No. 3269442. The other 10 are sired by our herd bull Anxiety 63d No. 2005293. The 20 yearlings and 2-year-olds are sired by Anxiety 63d and Baron Domino Lad No. 2287341.

Thirty-five bulls, ages from 12 to 18 months old—real rugged and well grown out and the easy fleshing kind raised out in the open.

Also offering 10 cows from 5 to 7 years of age, with calves by side. They are a good producing kind, dams of some of the offerings in the sale.

Sale to Be Held in White River Sale Pavilion Anders Registered Hereford Ranch

White River, S. D. OCT. 19

ply. Another telegram has come from Grover B. Hill, assistant war food administrator and a Texas cattleman. He states: "There has been no program on feed established as yet, as the greater part of the resolutions from the country are asking there not be any rationing of feed. Some have advocated allocation, which would amount to the same thing. I would appreciate if you will ascertain the feeling of the meeting there as to the need of feed program that would best meet present needs."

This question addressed to this audience is a salutary indication of the change that has come over the face of things among the bureaus.

This morning I received a call from J. F. Brownlee who, in the absence of Prentiss Brown, is head of the Office of Price Administration. I told him there was one message I would like to take to this group in Kansas City from the OPA, and that is that it would be his intention to work with the War Meat Board. He told me I could say to this group, without any reservation, that it will be the purpose of OPA to co-operate with the War Meat Board.

I think, in other words, we have accomplished something by this meeting; by the continuous effort we have made to make it clear that the farmer and rancher are not interested in grabbing high prices but only in maintaining their existence by being permitted to get at least the cost of production out

of their labors. I cannot help but feel, when I think of what has been done in the field of industry, that agriculture deserves every consideration. The boys could not man the Flying Fortresses and tanks if they did not have food, and the production of food is just as essential as the production of any other war commodity.

My message to you this afternoon is merely to express my confidence that there has been considerable progress in the last two or three months in the dealings of the War Food Administration and OPA with agriculture, and I believe that condition is going to continue to improve.

Price Regulations Ignored Production

By REP. CLIFFORD R. HOPE

THE FARMERS AND STOCKMEN of this country have made a wonderful record in production, operating from smaller plants as far as machinery and manpower are concerned than in normal times, and every year since the war began you have increased your production.

We wonder how it happens so many mistakes have been made in connection with the food program, and we blame the bureaucrats. I think there has been one mistake: They have gone at it in

Washington from the wrong end. The big problem is production. When we wanted production in airplanes and tanks, we went to those people in a position to produce them and we told them we would fix a price at which they might make a profit and take what they manufacture. We didn't care about the wage scale, we told them. The government built the factories, gave them the machinery, and gave them a profit. Of course we had increases. Yet agriculture, recognized by everyone as a war industry, hasn't had the same thing.

We have started from the other end—what do you think the consumer ought to pay? We have started from that end and then gone back, on back to the farmer. Until they go at it from the right end and recognize that in order to have production it is only fair to make it profitable to the producer, we are not going to solve our problem as far as agricultural production is concerned; and this nation may find itself in the position where it won't be able to keep its commitments to other countries, and have people in this country going hungry.

The great value of this meeting today is that it has given all of us an opportunity to get the viewpoint of the producers. I am sure as a result of this meeting, the sentiment that will be built up will be helpful to us and to you in bringing about an improvement in this situation.

Messersmith's Hiway Herefords

70 BULLS

What a set of bulls from which to select a herd bull for top breeding herds—or a set of bulls for top commercial herds. 20 in the top pen of herd headers, more in the top range pen—good bulls priced cheaper in the other two pens. All from our top cows selected for 20 years, and by the best bulls money could buy. A few by Prince Domino 19th out of "41st" daughters. Practically all with the blood of the "41st"—Real Prince 41st 2477325.

Among the 70 females selling are 35 yearling heifers that should stay in one herd. What quality and uniformity they will build! Many of our best cow families represented as well as the best sires. No nurse cows used or needed on our entire ranch of 8,000 acres covered with choice Herefords. There are 10 bred two's, three bred three's with calves at foot, and nine bred four's for sale. The rest are older foundation cows.

We are selling a few heifers bred to WHR Proud Princeps 4th 3207080, a three-quarters brother to Proud Princeps 9th, the 1943 Denver champion.

We know you will like the quality and breeding you find in the Messersmith herd. Many visitors say our herd has the best heads, hindquarters, bone and bodies they have ever seen; breeders appreciate the benefits they receive and have come back again to supplement their first purchases.

Females Sell at Any Time. Bulls Begin Selling October 9

The bulls will begin selling October 9 at the Kenneth Messersmith place 16 miles north, 7 miles east of Alliance, 23 south of Hay Springs, Neb., on state Highway 87. Write for our annual letter.

We deliver 200 miles or load cars F. O. B. Alliance or Hay Springs.

F. E. MESSERSMITH & SONS
ALLIANCE, NEBRASKA

"We build the beef where the highest priced cuts of meat grow"

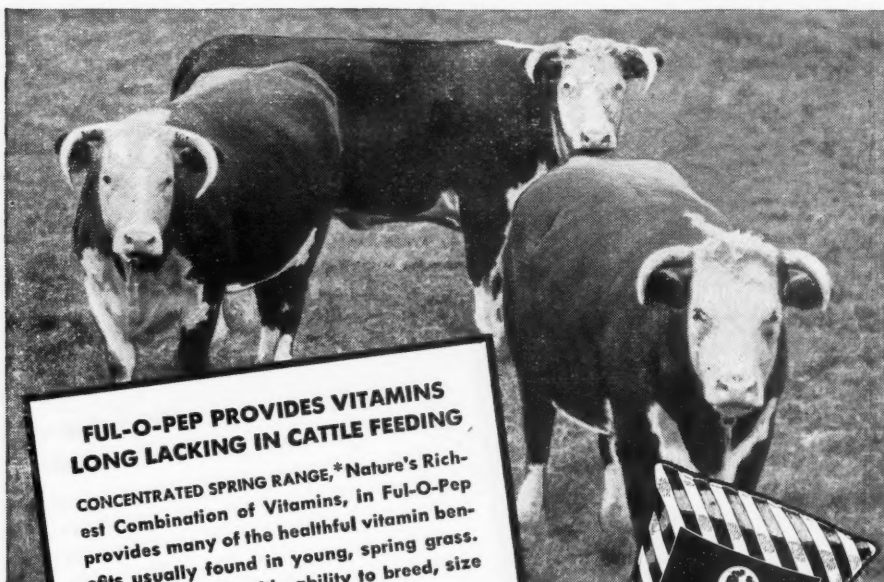
Chicago Fat Stock Show

Plans are under way to stage a second fat stock show at the Chicago Stock Yards in place of the International Live Stock Exposition, which was cancelled last year as a war measure. A showing of fat stock only will be held in the stockyard proper, consisting of carload lot displays of fat and feeder cattle, sheep, and swine, as well as individual steers, lambs, and hogs in both open and junior classes. The second market show will take place November 29 to December 2. The same premiums that have been paid in recent years at the Inter-

national will be offered by the Union Stock Yard and Transit Company, sponsor of the show, and by the various breed associations. B. H. Heide, well-known manager of the International, announces that premium lists for the market competition will be sent free on request to prospective exhibitors. According to Mr. Heide, ceiling prices will not be applied to steers, lambs, or hogs exhibited by boys and girls in the junior classes as club projects.

Four large purebred cattle sales will be held in conjunction with the show. These will include Shorthorns, Polled Shorthorns, Milking Shorthorns, and Herefords.

GIVE CATTLE A VITAMIN BOOST with FUL-O-PEP Range Breeder Cubes!



FUL-O-PEP PROVIDES VITAMINS LONG LACKING IN CATTLE FEEDING

CONCENTRATED SPRING RANGE, *Nature's Richest Combination of Vitamins, in Ful-O-Pep provides many of the healthful vitamin benefits usually found in young, spring grass. Promotes herd health, ability to breed, size of calf crop and strength of calves.

*Reg. U. S. Pat. Off.



FALL AND WINTER cattle diseases and unthriftiness are often due to poor range, causing vitamin deficiency in the herd. Yet the essential vitamins—those precious substances needed to avoid these serious and costly conditions, are richly supplied in Ful-O-Pep Range Breeder Cubes.

THOUSANDS OF COWS unable to breed, countless numbers of still born and sickly calves... in part, due to a lack of appreciation as to the importance of vitamins in cattle nutrition.

TODAY SCIENCE brings you a great, modern idea in cattle rations—Ful-O-Pep Vitaminized Range Breeder Cubes. Palatable, digestible and fortified with Concentrated Spring Range, Nature's Richest Vitamin Combination, plus other vitamin-rich sources to furnish vitamins long missing in cattle feeding.

SO RICH IN VITAMINS are these palatable Range Breeder Cubes, they help cattle stay thrifty over the winter and help build up strength and resistance to breeding difficulties and calving infections.

SEE YOUR FUL-O-PEP DEALER now and let him help you with your winter feeding plans.



GIVE CALVES NEEDED VITAMINS!

Ful-O-Pep Calf Starter Pellets containing Concentrated Spring Range provide nutritious, appetizing, energy-giving food for calves, rich in needed vitamins. Help give fast growth and rugged health in calves at low cost.

FOR FREE FACTS

THE QUAKER OATS COMPANY, DEPT. J-74, CHICAGO 4, ILL.

on Ful-O-Pep Range Breeder Cubes, and Ful-O-Pep Calf Starter, send your name and address on a penny post card to

Least Regulation Best

(Continued from Page 5)

men who operate the livestock and meat business. They stand ready with a plan to attain all that the government needs in the way of regulation for purposes of supplying meat in wartime. Their regulations would be effective because they would allow the producing, marketing, and processing machinery to run with the efficiency that years of experience, co-operation, and adjustment have built up.

The plan that the industry proposes is simple. It would license commercial slaughterers and ration meat to consumers. The licensing would be used to help hold down black market operations. The rationing power would be used to control demand and supply and, consequently, prices. Within these limits the competitive forces within the industry would be given free play. Black markets would be discouraged, prices would be controlled, desired distribution would be effected, production would be encouraged—and regulation, the poorest kind of substitute for individual responsibility, would be at a minimum.

Livestock and Feed

IN JULY WE CARRIED AN EDITORIAL that referred to the increasing livestock numbers in the country and the tight feed situation. Now, in September, that condition apparently has not changed much. We said then that some compromise would be necessary—perhaps limiting weight of hogs and degree of finish to be put on cattle, and similar restrictions in other lines, adding:

"So far as the western range cattle producer is concerned (and the same advice probably would hold good in beef herds in the Corn Belt) there is only one way in which he can protect himself, and that is to market heavily of any stock that is grass-fat this fall—and that means largely breeding cows. Such a practice will enable him to cull his herd more deeply and will provide a reserve of feed which will enable him to hold back a reasonable portion of his younger cattle that otherwise would go to market this fall. In other words, he will be marketing more beef and fewer feeder stock; but, even then, with the large number of cattle now in the country, he will be able to supply any demand that is likely to come from the Corn Belt, under the conditions mentioned, and still follow the practice suggested here."

We suggested that the producer study this problem. He should bear in mind two important reasons for the suggested course of action; namely, to help balance the supply of light cattle with the available amount of feed needed to run them through the feed-lots, and to put his own operations in position to stand up under the aggravated livestock and feed situation.

AMERICAN CATTLE PRODUCER

MARKETS

UNCERTAINTY MARKS LIVESTOCK SITUATION

By H. W. French

PLENTY OF CHANGES WERE REPORTED in prices for slaughter classes of cattle. The uncertainty underlying the situation was a factor with which both country owners and processors had to contend. At this writing there is nothing in the offing which points toward any improvement. The feed situation is serious in some sections and continued dry spells have not helped any. The corn crop is on its way to maturity and prospects are much better than a month ago.



H. W. French

One of the sharpest breaks in bull prices was noted, although there was some recovery. There were times when the decline averaged around \$1 in a week at most markets and in extreme instances a loss of \$2 was reported within one week. The cow market was headed for a tailspin and then worked sharply higher, contrary to trade predictions, but there was some late reaction. Fed steers and heifers in the upper grades fluctuated less than other classes, although there was a weakening trend on the warmed-up and grassy kinds, resulting in a much wider price spread.

Many are wondering about the size of the grain-fed cattle supply after the turn of the year, and in general the consensus is that buyers may find themselves short of finished cattle. The only aid they will have is the fact that recently some feed-lot operators have been buying fleshy heavy steers, probably with the idea of being in a position to fill the expected gap in months ahead.

Grassers to date, with the exception of those out of Kansas pastures, have not been so heavy as anticipated, and Chicago in reporting 3,000 northwesterns during the week ending Sept. 18 indicated this number as the heaviest of the season from that area. There have been more southwestern grassers than usual, but most of these have been in the lower grades. Delayed haying has had a tendency to hold back many of the range cattle in Colorado, but the supply should develop volume immediately, especially if prices hold where they are at present.

Kansas City received approximately 1,900 cars of grass steers out of Kansas and Oklahoma during the weeks of

Aug. 23 through Sept. 18, and for the week of Sept. 4, 525 cars alone were to be had. During 1942 the peak run for a week was 385 cars. Perhaps this movement has passed its peak for this year. Western supplies from other areas are expected to run chiefly to cows and stockers and feeders. Advance shipments of cows from Wyoming and Colorado distributed at the various markets included some strictly good heavy animals, some loads far exceeding an average of 1,200 pounds.

SHIPPING PROBLEM SERIOUS

The stock-car situation is serious, and those intending to ship have been advised to place their orders in plenty of time to avoid disappointment. The railroads need the utmost co-operation at this time and have pledged their best efforts toward furnishing cars when needed. One of the leading railroads reported that within a five-day period they had requests for over 1,000 cars in Idaho for sheep alone. Some cattle and sheep received by truck at the terminal markets and purchased there must be moved to final destination by rail, and this has added greatly to the problem of the railroads.

During August choice and prime beef steers made up 34.1 per cent of the steers sold out of first hands at Chicago, while good offerings constituted 48 per cent, the remainder consisting of common and medium. The average price for choice and prime figured \$16.13, for good \$15.29, for medium \$13.87, and for common \$11.69. The difference between top offerings and those grading common was nearly \$4.50. The average price for all grades figured \$15.36. Choice and prime steers showed an average weight of 1,166 pounds—over 100 pounds heavier than those grading good and approximately 300 pounds above those in the common grade.

For the week ending Sept. 11, choice and prime steers constituted 35.1 per cent of the supply as against 42.5 per cent a year ago. Good made up 47.7 and 42.2 per cent, respectively, with medium 16.0 and 14.1 per cent, respectively, and common 1.2 per cent in both years. All grades showed a combined average weight of 1,107 pounds this year and 1,092 pounds last year, while the average price stood at \$15.43 and \$15.10, respectively.

Shortly after mid-September fed steers despite some late weakness were generally steady to 25 cents higher than a month earlier at Chicago. Grain-fed heifers showed a similar trend although the common and medium heifers, many of which were of the grassy and warmed-up type, showed more than 25 cents' loss. Cows broke and then ad-

vanced sharply, closing sales standing strong to 50 cents above a month ago. Late recovery in bull prices absorbed much of the early decline and at the finish prices were only about 25 to 50 cents off. Vealers changed very little throughout.

NEW TOP AT \$16.95

Any number of choice to prime fed steers at Chicago sold at \$16.50 to \$16.85 and numerous loads from Colorado and Iowa scored \$16.90, the heaviest at the latter price averaging 1,429 pounds. A new top on the crop was registered at \$16.95 for highly finished 1,333-pound Iowa-fed arrivals. Light steers sold as high as \$16.65 and light yearlings up to \$16.50. The bulk of the good to choice steers for the month went at \$14 to \$16.50, but there were common to medium offerings at \$10.50 to \$13.50. Medium to good Montana grass-fat steers usually sold at \$13 to \$14, although some reached \$14.50, southwestern grassers in the main making \$12 to \$13.

Finished 975-pound Iowa-fed heifers topped at \$16.45 and some heavy offerings from Kansas reached \$16.40. Other choice loads made \$16 to \$16.35 but the bulk good to choice scored \$13.50 to \$15.85, common grassy heifers, however, frequently selling at \$9 to \$9.25 as contrasted with good Wyoming grass-fat heifers at \$13.50. Western grass cows from Wyoming, Colorado, and Montana topped at \$13, but medium to good bulked at \$10 to \$12.50, no natives passing \$12.75. Cannery and cutters sold chiefly at \$7 to \$9, some strongweight cutters at times passing \$9.25 and shelly cannery going below \$6.50. Bulls with weight sold up to \$13.75 and for a time nothing to speak of passed \$13.25, although late sales were up to \$13.50. Good to choice vealers sold at \$15 to \$16 with regularity.

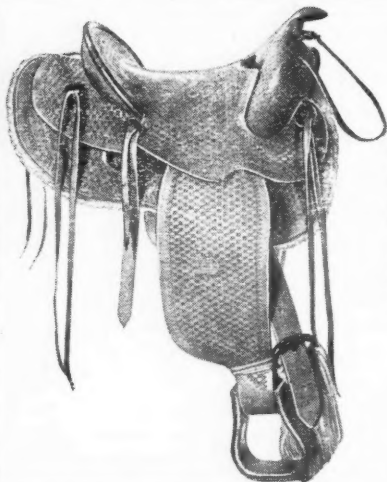
Omaha reported best fed steers at \$16.35 and the heaviest at \$16.25 averaged 1,553 pounds. Medium to choice offerings bulked at \$12.50 to \$15.85. Some choice heifers scored \$15.25 to \$15.40 but most heifers were taken at \$13 to \$15. Medium to good cows bulked at \$9.75 to \$12, but several good western loads from Nebraska and Wyoming made \$12.35 to \$12.75. Bulls sold as high as \$13, although the bulk cleared at \$11 to \$12.50. Choice vealers usually went at \$14.50.

Sales of choice to prime steers were fairly numerous at Kansas City from \$15.75 to \$16, some averaging 1,480 pounds making \$16.20 and others averaging 1,030 pounds topping at \$16.35. Good to choice bulked at \$13.85 to \$15.50 and medium kinds sold chiefly at \$12 to \$13.25. Wintered grassers landed at \$13 to \$14, those at the latter figure averaging 1,370 pounds. Common to medium grass-fat steers bulked at \$10 to \$12.75 but cutter and common loads on the Mexican order landed at \$8 to \$9.75. Outstanding 940-pound heifers

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topped at \$16, a few loads making \$15.50 to \$15.65 and bulk selling at \$13 to \$15. Grass heifers were most numerous at \$11 to \$12.25. Any number of medium to good cows sold at \$10 to \$11.85 and best scored \$12.25 to \$12.75, common kinds frequently selling at \$8.25 to \$9.25. Bulls sold downward from \$12, many grassy lightweights landing below \$9.50.

Some choice fed steers at St. Joseph made \$15.60 to \$16 and good to choice bulked at \$13.25 to \$15.50. Wintered grass steers and those grained on grass made \$13.25 to \$14.40, common to medium straight grassers clearing at \$10.25 to \$13. No fed heifers passed \$15.40, although mixed yearlings reached \$15.50. It was largely a \$9.25 to \$11.75 cow trade, although strictly good kinds went at \$12 to \$12.75. Sioux City reported finished 1,447-pound steers at \$16.30 and bulk good to choice at \$14 to \$15.75. Good 1,375-pound Nebraska grassers went at \$14.25 and grass-fat heifers sold at \$12 down. Best grain-fed heifers made \$15.25 to \$15.50. Western cows were most numerous at \$10 to \$11.50 but some scored \$12 to \$12.75 and a few natives reached \$13. Bulls topped at \$12.85 but there were times when the bulk sold below \$12. Several loads of strictly choice steers at St. Paul scored \$16 to \$16.25 and medium to choice landed at \$12 to \$15.75, with common down to \$10. Medium to choice heifers were taken at \$12 to \$15.50 and mixed yearlings reached 15.75. Best western cows landed at \$12 to \$13; the top was \$13.25, but common to good usually cleared at \$8.75 to \$11.75. Bulls reached \$13.25, fell to around \$11.75, and finished as high as \$12.75. Good to choice vealers at the high time scored \$15.75 to \$16.50, dropped to \$15 to \$15.50, and best recovered at \$16.

Any number of strictly choice medium weight fed steers at Denver landed at \$15.90 to \$16 and numerous strings cleared at \$15.50 to \$15.75, while the good to choice offerings bulked at \$14 to \$15.40. Medium kinds sold at \$12.50 to \$13.25, while cutter to common Mexican steers were secured at \$9 to \$11. Fed heifers topped at \$15.75 on numerous occasions, and such offerings averaged 1,171 to 1,277 pounds—an unusually heavy string of females. Other good to choice bulked at \$13.75 to \$15.60 and warmed-up kinds sold as low as \$13. Grass-fat heifers occasionally made \$13 to \$13.50 but bulk sold at \$11 to \$12.75 and very common lots went below \$9. Best heavy range cows cleared at \$12.50 to \$12.75, but some of these were comparatively young. Common to good cows bulked at \$9.50 to \$12. Only shelly and light canners sold below \$6.50. It was hard to get above \$11.50 for bulls after the market broke, and light weights were most numerous below \$10. Top and bulk choice vealers scored \$14 and any number of good to choice heavy calves cleared at \$12.75 to \$13.50.

Stocker and feeder demand for a good part of the period was of little conse-

AMERICAN CATTLE PRODUCER

quence at some markets, and cheaper grades of heifers and cows often purchased for shipment to western Kansas wheatfields were hard to move. This outlet was almost nil because of the feed conditions in that area. With increased supplies, the demand developed volume at most points and declining prices were halted. Some markets reported the largest supply of the season and the best demand since late April and early May. This improved call came mostly from the Corn Belt, and western feed-lot operators to date have done little replacing.

Compared with a month ago, steers on country account at Chicago, where northwesterns were not abundant and southwesterns predominated along with natives, looked strong to 25 cents higher, but heifers were taken on the weaker side and cows suffered considerable decline as against a steady market for calves. The price structure at Denver and Missouri River markets was not so healthy as far as stocker and feeder classes were concerned and in all instances sales were lower.

CALVES ON THE WAITING LIST

Calves are not getting their usual call because of the long period of feeding necessary before they are finished, while some buyers are seeking only fleshy steers with weight. This condition may prevail throughout the season, or at least until the men who usually purchase calves get back into the market. The present policy seems to be to buy the weight and finish with the idea that this method under present conditions is cheaper than attempting to "feed it on."

There were sales reported in Wyoming of good yearling steers direct to the feeder at \$12, and some Colorado two-year-olds were sold at \$13. Calves in Texas offered at \$14 were avoided, and it is known that some youngsters have been purchased at \$13. Some light heifers have been moved out of Texas, but the movement has not been heavy.

Average cost of feeder and stocker steers at Chicago for August stood at \$12.56 against \$12.13 a year ago. Cost at Kansas City was \$12.17 and \$12.05, respectively, and at St. Paul figured \$11.10 and \$11.14, respectively. In these figures no adjustment for difference in grade of cattle at each market was made. The average weight in the two years varied very little. For the week of Sept. 10, costs were as follows: Chicago \$12.84, Kansas City \$12.04, and St. Paul \$11.03. This compared with \$12.38 at Chicago, \$11.76 at Kansas City, and \$10.77 at St. Paul during the corresponding week last year.

Native and southwestern steers at Chicago were taken on country account chiefly at \$11 to \$13.50 and common kinds sold as low as \$9.50. Highly bred western steers, some of them fleshy and weighty, scored \$14.25 to \$14.50, and choice 725-pound Wyoming yearlings reached \$15. Choice feeder heifers, light

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in weight, reached \$13. Good southwestern calves often sold at \$13.75 to \$14.25, while better kinds scored \$14.50 to \$15 when available.

Fleshy feeder steers at Omaha quite frequently made \$13.50 to \$14.40 and some averaging 1,304 pounds topped at \$14.50. Choice yearlings landed at \$13.50 to \$14. The big end of the medium to choice steers were taken at \$11 to \$13.25 and many common lots at \$9.25 to \$10. Good to choice heifers sold at \$11 to \$12.50, with a top of \$13.

Kansas City reported several loads of choice feeder steers around 1,000 to 1,200 pounds at \$13.35 to \$13.90 and some 800-pound offerings at \$13.50. The good to choice usually made \$12 to \$13.25, while medium to good yearlings cleared at \$10 to \$12.50, as choice kinds were absent. Any number of good to choice heifers sold to country buyers at \$10.50 to \$12.15. Steer calves went generally at \$12 to \$14.40 and heifer calves at \$11 to \$13.50.

Common to good steers went out from St. Joseph at \$9.50 to \$13, some good light heifers making \$11.25. Good to choice calves scored \$12.25 to \$14.25. Medium to choice steers at Sioux City were reported at \$11.50 to \$13.50 but a few choice heavy loads went at \$13.85 to \$14 and light yearlings also reached \$14. Numerous loads of 500 to 650-pound feeder heifers cleared at \$12.25 to \$12.75 and the extreme top was \$13.25. Common to good steers at St. Paul scored \$9 to \$13 and choice loads made \$13.25 to \$14, with yearlings as high as \$14.50.

It was chiefly an \$11 to \$13 market for medium to good steers for roughing and feeding requirements at Denver, although a few loads of heavy feeders sold at \$13.25 to \$13.50 and for the first time since July some yearlings reached \$14. Many common steers sold at \$9 to \$10. Medium to good heifers sold largely at \$10 to \$11.25 but several loads late landed at \$11.50 to \$11.60. Common and medium stock cows sold at \$7 to \$8.50 but the better kinds bulked at \$8.75 to \$9 and some made \$9.75 to \$10 when light and young. Comparatively few calves went out above \$13 and many medium lots sold at \$11 to \$11.50.

Seasonably light receipts dominated the hog market, and prices hit the highest level since May before any reaction put in an appearance. Considerable fluctuation was noted, but the trade as a whole had a strong undertone and closing prices were not the lowest for the period.

A LIVESTOCK CEILING FINALLY

Live hogs were placed under dollars and cents ceiling Sept. 11 for sales within the United States. This was the first ceiling on livestock by the Office of Price Administration and was concurred in by the War Food Administration. The ceiling at Chicago is \$14.75 per cwt., and is effective Oct. 4. Other maximum prices are based on geographical

location and type of selling place but no seasonal differentials are provided.

Hogs weighing under 40 pounds sold for feeding for more than 30 days are exempt, as are hogs for breeding or for serum sold outside the United States by 4-H Clubs, Future Farmers of America, and other recognized farm youth organizations at fairs, shows, and exhibitions where prior approval has been obtained from OPA.

Hogs slaughtered under federal inspection during August totaled 4,464,437, standing over 1,200,000 head in excess of August, 1942. There was some increase in the slaughter of sheep and lambs but a decrease in the slaughter of cattle and calves. The increase in hog slaughter for the first eight months of this year exceeded 5,500,000 head.

Sows made up 33.99 per cent of the hogs slaughtered under federal inspection during July as against 50.89 per cent in June, 44.87 per cent for January through July, and 58.87 per cent in July, 1942. Not long ago hog growers in many sections of the country were marketing their sows in an alarming fashion, but in recent weeks they apparently have the feed situation better in hand and have reduced their marketings.

Hog prices at Chicago on Sept. 17 stood roughly 15 cents higher than a month earlier but were generally 25 cents lower than the high time in September. Closing top was \$15.15 against \$15.05 at the start of September and \$15.40 at the high time. Most of the good to choice barrows and gilts from 200 to 270 pounds sold at \$14.75 to \$15.15 on the closing market, and at that time good to choice sows were most numerous at \$14.50 to \$14.85.

Movement of sheep and lambs out of Idaho and Colorado was liberal, yet the demand was good on every break and recovery at times was not only quick but sharp. The car situation undoubtedly helped to keep receipts in check, or even greater supplies would have put in an appearance. Many of the fat spring lambs are grading good and choice, yet some bands are coming to market without sort because of shortage of experienced help at the loading points. Train crews often assist shippers at loading time, so acute is the need for saving of time which would be lost without such assistance.

There was more fluctuation in slaughter spring lambs than in sheep or feeder lambs, as killers after raiding prices immediately put on a buying spree and forced prices back up with rapidity, whereas the recovery on feeder lambs and slaughter sheep was not so sharp because the decline was hardly so severe before they hit bottom. Although new lows for the season were reached, the fat spring lamb prices at Chicago shortly after mid-September were only 35 to 50 cents lower than a month earlier. Fat ewes for the period showed about 50 cents' decline and such offerings were in good supply.

AMERICAN CATTLE PRODUCER

Contracting of feeder lambs on the range was at or almost at a standstill in many of the producing areas, partly because of the holding prices and partly owing to the lack of wheat pastures, together with the uncertainty of the corn situation for the feed-lot operator. To date some of the big feeders have made no purchases of feeding lambs either on the range or on the terminal markets. There were several days recently when feeder lambs at one of the markets made up 50 to 80 per cent of the entire supply, and it was said that this represented a situation caused by an influx of lambs owned by speculative interests who had been unable to find any other outlet.

BUYING MAY SPEED UP

Lambs on the range held for weeks at \$12.50 to \$13 may now be obtained around the \$12 mark, so that growers and prospective feeders are closer together and are now doing some dealing. Even prices at some of the big markets strengthened late after the trade became almost stagnant. With sales on the range at \$12 and below and with offerings on the markets selling generally at \$12.50 to \$13, there may be increased buying, as the time is getting late and certainly the volume of feeding lambs that has moved to feed-lots thus far is far below normal.

Not many feeder lambs were available at Chicago, but, at Denver and Omaha where load after load put in an appearance, prices finished around 75 cents lower than a month earlier, yet in some instances were at least 25 cents higher than the month's low spot. It was not so much the slight improvement in price late that made growers feel better, but the fact that it was easier to move holdings helped greatly, because too much congestion would work havoc with the trade.

Choice Washington spring lambs to killers made \$15.35 rather late in August at Chicago but with the turn into September somewhat similar arrivals had to sell around \$14.75 and still late choice spring lambs were available at a top of \$14.50. On the close best were quoted around \$14.75, but on this bulge both Kansas City and Denver reported strictly choice Colorados as high as \$15. Good and choice fat ewes sold largely at \$6.25 to \$7 but some choice kinds reached \$7.25 and many common lots sold around \$5. Medium to choice fed yearling wethers went at \$12.25 to \$13.50 but hardly any passed \$13. Choice yearling breeding ewes made \$12.25 and outstanding Washington yearling ewes early in the period reached \$13.35.

Although quite a number of feeder lambs scored \$13.50 to \$13.75 at Omaha, where an extreme top of \$14 was registered, the late sales at this market were chiefly at \$12.50 to \$13 and some reached \$13.35 late at St. Paul. The good to choice kinds at Denver finished around \$12 to \$12.60 against many early at

\$13.25 to \$13.50 and some at \$13.60 to \$13.75. Some feeder lambs were taken early at Ogden up to \$13.25 but most sales later were below \$13 and some comparatively good Utahs closed around \$11.75.

WOOL AND HIDE TRADE

By H. W. F.

TOTAL STOCKS OF WOOL ON hand in the United States on June 26 owned by manufacturers and dealers on a grease basis was 566,359,000 pounds, of which 319,571,000 pounds were domestic and 246,788,000 pounds foreign.

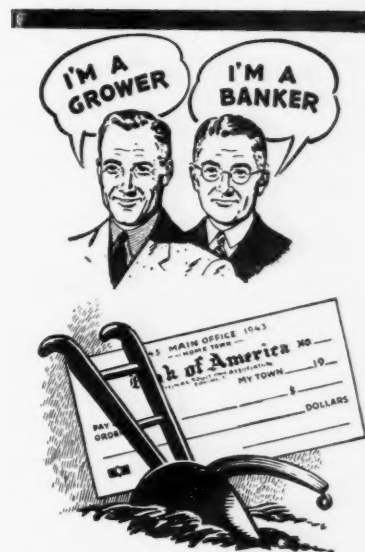
On September 3, a total of 149,204,846 pounds of domestic wool had been appraised for purchase by the Commodity Credit Corporation. It was estimated that the Commodity Credit Corporation would purchase approximately 180,000,000 to 200,000,000 pounds of 1943 wool. Some interest was shown in the trade in the auctions of territory wool to be held in the West for the account of this agency beginning Sept. 13 and ending on Sept. 25. A total of 13,000,000 pounds are to be offered at appraisal prices.

Production of woolen and worsted fabrics for the first six months of 1943 totaled 273,000,000 yards compared with 265,400,000 yards in the corresponding time a year earlier. Total consumption of apparel grease wool in the first half of 1943 was 478,024,000 pounds, of which 208,549,000 pounds was domestic and 269,928,000 pounds foreign. For the corresponding period in 1942, the consumption was 461,313,000 pounds, composed of 196,385,000 pounds domestic and 264,928,000 pounds foreign.

The Boston wool market was uneven and after some activity turned quiet at mid-September. Toward the end of August some action was noted on domestic unrestricted wool, and owners of these free wools were willing to make price concessions. Sales of short and French combing Texas, California, and some territory wools were made at from 4 to 8 cents below ceilings, on a clean basis.

The strong demand for domestic medium wools which has existed since the allocation of orders for government blankets early in the spring has tapered off considerably and sales were generally restricted to the better lots of these wools.

Offerings of Australian wools were limited to off-sorts and inferior lots. Some inquiry was made on prices and descriptions of both Australian and New Zealand wool for delivery in the fall and winter for use in civilian business. There was considerable activity reported in South America in the lower grades of wool for speculative purposes. Sales were generally made allowing a year of free storage. No permits to import these wools have been granted since July, 1942. Under a new War Production



WE HAVE A LOT IN COMMON

From a business point of view, farming and banking are pretty much alike. In either business you've got to look ahead; to plan your year to take care of the usual things, of course; but, still more important, to be able to meet emergencies when they come.

In either farming or banking you've got to know your business, and know your competition. You should know in advance, as nearly as possible, what the market needs; and then supply that market with the best there is to be had—be it farm products or financial accommodations.

It is the business of the grower to produce crops! It is the business of the bank to lend money to produce those crops. Quick, complete and economical service awaits you at your local Bank of America. You are cordially invited to make use of it.

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Board order recently, it is possible to make application for licenses to import foreign wools of all grades, provided the wool is to be used for apparel goods.

PASS UP AT CEILING

Wool auction at Denver from Sept. 13 to 17, inclusive, resulted in no sales or bids, as buyers were unwilling to pay ceiling prices since they have been buying free wool at lower figures. There were 5,655,000 pounds shown, and buyers carefully inspected all sample bags for reference later. Another auction will be held in Billings on Sept. 20, with 3,500,000 pounds on offer. On Sept. 23 and 24, 2,500,000 pounds will be offered at auction in Miles City.

Recent appraisals for the Commodity Credit Corporation included Ohio graded Delaine shrinking 60 per cent at 45.40 cents; half staple, average, with 57 per cent shrink, 50.31 cents; and three-eighths light and shrinking 47 per cent, 50.12 cents, all grease basis. Graded Iowa half blood, with 61 per cent shrink, 44.85 cents; three-eighths shrinking 50 to 52 per cent, 52 and 49.92 cents, respectively; quarter, with 47 and 48 per cent shrink, at 51.84 and 49.92 cents, respectively; graded Minnesota three-eighths, 47 and 53 per cent shrink, 55.12 and 48.88 cents, respectively; quarter, with 45 and 50 per cent shrink, 52.80 and 48 cents, respectively.

Some unrestricted domestic fine wool sold around \$1.10 to \$1.12, clean basis, for French combing, some territory fine free wool of French combing type making \$1.12 to \$1.14. Some Texas 12-months' wool sold at 44 to 48 cents, grease basis.

Wyoming wools, fine, staple, average shrinking 64, 67 and 68 per cent, were appraised at 42.48, 38.61, and 37.76 cents, respectively. Montana fine staple, light shrinking 54 and 59 per cent, went at 54.74 and 48.79 cents, respectively, and fine staple average with 57 per cent shrink at 50.74 cents. Some Utah average staple with 65 per cent shrink was placed at 40.85 cents to 41.30 cents. Fine, staple, light, shrinking 63 per cent at 44.03 cents, and fine, short, average, with 67 per cent shrink, at 37.29 cents.

Contracting of the fall clip of mohair was fairly active in Texas, with some early sales at 57½ cents for adult, 63 cents for third shearing, and 77½ cents for kid hair. More recent sales prevailed at 56 cents for adult and 76 cents for kid hair. Some matchings were sold in Boston for future delivery at 50 cents for 18's and 57 cents for 20's.

HIDES RUN SHORT

There was a shortage of raw hides despite the increase in slaughtering of cattle and some interests reported the selections a little better. Tanners are reported to have exhausted their inventories other than in-process stocks. Lack of supplies was felt principally in the production of shoes. Late in August, however, shoe production in New England was up from a year ago, due

largely to the extensive production of substitute soles for non-rationed shoes.

Leather for civilian use is down in volume and reports indicate that needs for the armed forces will continue at the present level. A bigger movement of cattle to the markets within a short time should result in an increased supply of hides, but expected demand will absorb everything placed on sale.

More activity was reported in big packer hide trade and permits were well absorbed. Interest in small packer hides was limited. Hide sellers and brokers are now under license and are made responsible for deliveries.

Most sales have been at ceiling levels. Heavy and light steers and cows are quoted at 15½ cents, with branded steer and cow hides at 14½ cents, and native bull hides at 12 cents. Packer kipskins were listed at 20 cents and packer calfskins at 27 cents. There was a big demand for sheep leather but the supply was much better.

The country hide market was quiet all month and little interest in offerings was shown by buyers. Native hides, all weights, as well as extremes, 28 to 42 pounds, were quoted at 15 cents, while branded offerings were placed at 14 cents.

SENTIMENTS FROM THREE BUSY STATES

By DAVID I. DAY

WE DROVE LEISURELY IN EARLY September into Kansas City, passing through Carroll, Ray, and Clay counties. These are counties filled with busy communities, in many respects the Corn Belt at its best. I chatted with an aged gentleman in one village who recalled the events clearly as happening in the community during and after the Civil War. Among other well-known characters of the time, he remembered Jesse James. That led to jovial conversation about the prices being asked for used farm machinery, some selling at twice its new value after several seasons of use.

I do not know the sentiment everywhere, but along the roads traveled in Missouri the farm folk are fed up on the labors of certain federal agencies. The cattle producers in this part of the country would enjoy seeing these agencies expediting rather than hindering the free operation of the War Meat Board, for instance. There had been a Kansas City conference of livestock and feed people the day before, and these people expressed pretty accurately the



David I. Day

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Junior grade veterinarians are urgently needed by the Department of Agriculture, the war food and food distribution administrations, to assure successful operation of all available slaughterhouse facilities. Duties of these positions include inspection of food animals and food products; administration of tests for disease; control and eradication of disease; and sanitary inspection of plants. Applications will be acceptable only from persons having completed study in a veterinary college of recognized standing or senior students now in attendance at such schools, if otherwise qualified. The positions pay \$2,000 per annum (plus \$433 overtime pay). There are no written tests or age limits. Further information may be obtained at first- and second-class post offices, Civil Service regional offices, and the Commission in Washington, D. C.

feeling of the men in the fields and feed-lots.

Cattlemen do not seem to care much for the present subsidy-rollback program. A good many people have lost money through the cancellation of protein feed contracts, and it is felt that, as the government is so lavish along other lines, it might help out these folks a little. But more than anything else, the farmers are sore at the inferences of government agencies that meat shortages are to be chalked up against the producers instead of taking the rap themselves. I heard a lot about that as I went toward Kansas City, more and more, in fact, as the Kansas-Missouri line was approached.

Reduced to a short statement, these farmers and livestock people feel there is to be further tinkering with the livestock marketing structure, and it is not "setting" very well.

I spent a couple of hours with an old-timer in farming and steer feeding, a Mr. Grady, now 76 years old. Naturally age as a rule brings conservative thinking, but he is alarmed about the government controls over farming and feeding, which, in his opinion, are almost certain to materialize after the war ends. He feels that unless the present Congress shows a trend otherwise, the old-time freedom characteristic of America since colonial times is gone for good.

He is reducing his cattle feeding operations to match his feed production, pointing out that the decline in beef cattle prices was due only in part to the lower beef ceiling prices. It was partially caused by the rush of grass-fed cattle to market because of the feed situation, there being more cattle on farms than there is feed to see them through. It seems to be noticeably the case in northwestern Missouri.

AMERICAN CATTLE PRODUCER

While I was in East St. Louis, I learned that in early August, for example, about three times as many cattle had come to market there as had come in five or six weeks previously. It has been natural along the Mississippi and in the fertile Illinois grain country, as elsewhere, for farmers to have increased the size of their herds and their purchases of western calves. The livestock prices were right and there was a world of feed. All that theory is now definitely in reverse.

The outlook for well-fed quality cattle is favorable, however. In all directions we see indications of a firm market on cattle of this type. All other kinds will likely continue uneven. I look for a noticeable weakness as the volume of westerns becomes larger at midwestern markets. The farmers east of Kansas City are smart in this respect. As cattle get about finished, they are being marketed without further ado.

I traveled by bus from Kansas City to Des Moines. Judging from appearances en route and from conversations with fellow passengers, it would seem that government estimates on various food crops are overoptimistic. Never in all history have farmers labored so valiantly against such odds as this year—scarce labor, scarce machinery, and poor seasons in spots.

In addition to purchasing cattle to meet the feed supply with a little margin in favor of the feed, it is to be observed that there is more fall grain pasture going out in both Missouri and Iowa. Some farmers are in possession of cured hay of rather low grade which at an earlier period might have been plowed under. To offset this greater zeal for roughage, good or fair, there must have been a little carelessness in many communities in storing the hay, both loose and baled. There have been too many barn fires due to heating, spontaneous combustion.

In conversation with a central Iowa feeder who had just put 75 western steers in his pasture, I learned that this is his program for the remainder of 1943 and the first eight or nine months of 1944. With variations, it is the approximate plan of hundreds of others. Driving out with a friend to Waterloo from Des Moines, we spied the calves on a good late alfalfa field and stopped to talk. The farmer's name was Barton, operating a 160-acre farm of fair fertility. He said he planned to run the calves on alfalfa and fall barley pasture, gradually getting them used to alfalfa and a daily feed of shelled corn by the middle of October.

"From then on, they will be on alfalfa with a little grain in mild weather, more grain in severe weather," he explained. "After Christmas, I will run in a little of the less desirable hay, also using some red clover for the sake of variety. Early in the spring, they will go on rye; later on grass. During this period, I will feed a little mixture of 700 pounds

ground corn, 700 pounds ground barley, 500 pounds ground oats, and 100 pounds soybean oil meal. Then on alfalfa pasture, with a little of the same mixture, a very little, of course, if the pasture turns out good. They will have a run on sudan pasture in August, and soon they will be in the feed-lot, where they will get all the grain, legume hay, and whatever high-protein meal I can get for them. My idea is to go slow on the protein meal, saving it for the final feeding."

This farmer is starting this fall with about 75 per cent of his usual number, and this seems to be pretty much the rule in his locality and in many more. It all depends upon the feed in sight in most cases.

I had a short series in a farm magazine once on common cattle diseases and what to do about them. One of the diseases discussed is known usually as "foul feet" and quite usually shows up in cattle that have been shut up in summer in dirty barns. Occasionally, cinders or stones will lodge between the toes causing inflammation of the skin. We usually treat this ailment with iodine or sometimes have the cattle walk through a shallow trough containing air-slaked lime. A letter came to me not long ago from James M. Gilfoil, Tallulah, La. His cattle had an ailment that looked like "foul feet," but, whatever it is, it starts out in the pasture and the drier the weather the more prevalent the ailment. His cattle are registered Herefords, but none has had it except in one foot. This foot will swell until the skin nearly bursts. The veterinarians are puzzled about the trouble. Probably some of my western readers have had the trouble among their cattle and can report on treatment.

Well, back to Kansas City by bus; showers in places to ride through. Over into Kansas for interviews with three or four good cattle feeders and herd owners. Saw several bunches of cross-bred cattle, many of them Shorthorn-Hereford crosses. Many like this cross, getting cattle of heavier bone and more size. Along the Kansas River as far west as Manhattan is one of the most pleasant drives in this country; fine farms and fine farmers, too.

I learned that there were 85,000 Herefords in over 700 herds in the Sunflower State. Purebred interests in the other beef breeds are on the march, too. One man I talked to has had difficulty with Bang's disease regulations and is anxious to see all the states get together on tests and regulations. To buy a cow that tests negative in one state and positive in another is bad business. Another man told me of the enthusiasm at various sales, indicating that, once the war is over, there will be a real trend in the direction of better beef cattle. He said: "Using better bulls and more home-grown legume feeds are the two ways out of the present dilemma."

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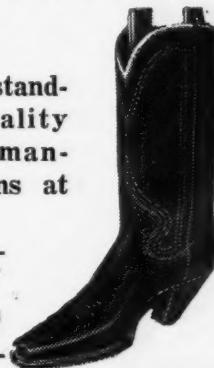
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	Sept. 1, 1943†	Aug. 1, 1943	Sept. 1, 1942	Five-Year Av.
Frozen Beef	91,502,000	79,618,000	69,211,000	38,768,000
Cured Beef*	9,949,000	8,428,000	14,077,000	12,019,000
Lamb and Mutton, Frozen	13,713,000	9,660,000	7,602,000	3,684,000
Frozen Pork	179,335,000	204,244,000	94,884,000	119,876,000
Dry Salt Pork*	157,893,000	161,733,000	97,706,000	87,534,000
Pickled Pork*	158,132,000	178,320,000	144,044,000	179,594,000
Meats, Miscellaneous	111,541,000	115,525,000	93,748,000	71,745,000
Lard	227,623,000	212,543,000	75,840,000	174,527,000
Rendered Pork Fat	33,350,000	28,407,000	9,434,000	—
Frozen Poultry	54,717,000	38,851,000	86,645,000	74,401,000

NOTE: †Previously included with lard. *Cured or in process of cure. †Figures shown subject to revision. These holdings include stocks in both cold storage warehouses and meat packing house plants. The FDA and FSICC held in cold storage outside of processors' hands, 82,338,268 pounds of cured pork cuts and 148,397,964 pounds of lard and rendered pork fat.

WHOLESALE DRESSED MEAT

	New York Sept. 15, 1943	New York Aug. 16, 1943	Chicago Sept. 15, 1942
FRESH BEEF AND VEAL—			
Steer and Heifer—Choice (700 lbs. up)	\$21.50-22.25	\$21.50-22.25	\$20.50-22.00†
Steer and Heifer—Good	20.50-21.25	20.50-21.25	19.00-20.50†
Steer and Heifer—Choice (500-700 lbs.)	21.50-22.25	21.50-22.25	20.50-22.00†
Steer and Heifer—Good	20.50-21.25	20.50-21.25	19.00-20.50†
Yearling Steer and Heifer—Choice	21.50-22.25	21.50-22.25	20.50-22.00
Yearling Steer and Heifer—Good	20.50-21.25	20.50-21.25	19.00-20.50
Cow—Commercial	18.50-19.25	18.50-19.25	—
Veal and Calf—Choice	21.50-22.25*	21.50-22.25*	21.00-22.50
Veal and Calf—Good	20.50-21.25*	20.50-21.25*	19.00-21.00
FRESH LAMB AND MUTTON—			
Lamb—Choice (all weights)	26.00-26.75	26.00-26.75	25.00-27.00
Lamb—Good	24.50-25.25	24.50-25.25	23.50-25.50
Ewe—Good	13.25-14.00	13.25-14.00	12.00-13.00
Ewe—Commercial	12.00-12.75	12.00-12.75	10.00-11.00
FRESH PORK CUTS—			
Loin—8-12 lbs.	25.25-26.00	25.25-26.00	27.00-29.00

†Steer only. *Veal only.

CHICAGO LIVESTOCK PRICES

	Sept. 15, 1943	Aug. 16, 1943	Sept. 15, 1942
Slaughter Steers—Choice (1,100-1,500 lbs.)	\$16.00-17.00	\$15.75-16.90	\$15.25-16.50
Slaughter Steers—Good	14.75-16.00	14.50-16.00	13.75-15.50
Slaughter Steers—Choice (900-1,100 lbs.)	15.75-16.75	15.50-16.50	14.50-16.00
Slaughter Steers—Good	14.75-15.75	14.50-15.75	13.50-14.50
Slaughter Steers—Medium (700-1,300 lbs.)	12.00-15.00	12.00-14.50	11.00-14.00
Fed Young Steers—Gd.-Ch. (700-900 lbs.)	14.50-16.50	14.50-16.50	14.25-15.50
Heifers—Good-Choice	13.50-16.45	13.75-16.25	12.25-15.50
Cows—Good	12.25-13.25	12.25-13.00	10.25-12.75
Vealers—Good-Choice	15.00-16.00	15.00-16.00	14.50-16.00
Calves—Good-Choice	12.00-14.00	12.00-14.00	12.00-14.00
Feeder and Stocker Steers—Good-Choice	12.50-15.00	12.75-14.75	11.50-14.00
Feeder and Stocker Steers—Com.-Med.	10.00-12.50	10.00-12.75	9.50-12.00
Hogs—Medium Weights (200-240 lbs.)	14.75-15.05	14.55-14.80	14.10-14.35
Spring Lambs—Good-Choice	13.50-14.75	12.75-14.90	14.00-14.60
Yearling Wethers (Shorn)—Good-Choice	12.50-13.50	12.40-13.50	11.25-12.25
Ewes (Shorn)—Good-Choice	5.75- 6.25	6.35- 7.00	5.50- 6.25

LIVESTOCK AT STOCKYARDS

	1943	August	1942	First Eight Months 1943	1942
RECEIPTS—					
Cattle*	1,644,887	1,783,185	10,272,700	10,773,445	
Calves	533,350	615,629	3,202,074	3,905,633	
Hogs	3,015,647	2,187,374	25,674,264	21,664,812	
Sheep and Lambs	3,398,913	2,772,285	16,675,766	15,654,548	
TOTAL SHIPMENTS†—					
Cattle*	787,193	769,111	5,047,737	4,175,726	
Calves	234,058	276,089	1,390,854	1,452,721	
Hogs	907,895	552,322	6,939,544	5,444,041	
Sheep and Lambs	1,706,679	1,496,997	7,522,841	7,096,879	
STOCKER AND FEEDER SHIPMENTS—					
Cattle*	319,317	355,977	2,102,162	1,874,558	
Calves	70,091	83,509	417,084	499,379	
Hogs	82,215	49,410	545,130	418,125	
Sheep and Lambs	453,334	462,211	2,180,267	1,918,590	
SLAUGHTERED UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION—					
Cattle*	988,472	1,102,738	6,816,131	7,908,398	
Calves	433,873	460,050	2,868,959	3,691,864	
Hogs	4,464,347	3,223,059	39,788,685	34,035,720	
Sheep and Lambs	2,268,573	1,839,797	13,648,077	12,757,535	

*Exclusive of calves. †Includes stockers and feeders.

AMERICAN CATTLE PRODUCER

ROUND THE RANGE

WESTERN LIVESTOCK AND RANGE REPORT

FEEED ON WESTERN RANGES ON September 1 was poor to good, having suffered from dry hot weather in August, according to the Denver western livestock office of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics. Condition declined three points, compared with an average drop of one point. Livestock continued in good condition, with some shrink in dry areas.

Ranges in the central northern Great Plains and mountain sections had a good supply of feed. August rains improved the range feed in Arizona and parts of Utah and Colorado. Range feed was very dry and a drought condition existed in Oklahoma. Texas ranges were very dry, with short feed, except on the east coast.

Montana and the Dakotas reported a good crop of cured range feed. The ranges and pastures of western Nebraska, western Kansas, and eastern Colorado had good range feed that dried and cured rapidly. Eastern Wyoming range feed was good, with dry, short feed in the central, south-central, and southwestern sections. New Mexico ranges had short, dry feed, with some improvement by rain in the higher and local areas. California ranges and pastures were above average. Range feed was generally good and well cured in Oregon and Washington. Idaho had good feed on the higher ranges, with dry, short feed on the low ranges. Nevada ranges had fairly good dry feed.

There has been some shortage of stock water in parts of Wyoming, Texas, Oklahoma, and other local areas. The supply

of range feed for late fall and winter use was good in the northern and central Great Plains. The growth of feed was dry and somewhat short on the desert winter ranges of central, south-central, and southwest Wyoming, also in southern Idaho, parts of Nevada and Utah. There was a serious shortage of concentrates and high protein feeds needed to supplement range feed, particularly where range feeds were short.

Cattle and calves will show good weight and finish from the northern areas but will be lighter than last fall from Oklahoma and the Southwest. Marketings of cattle during August were smaller than a year earlier from the northern sections and Texas. There was a heavy run of cattle from Kansas pastures and a forced movement from the dry sections of Oklahoma. Indications were that fall marketings of western cattle will be larger than during the fall of 1942, due to dry, short range feed, high feed prices, and a shortage of concentrates. Contracting and buying of feeder cattle was on a very limited scale during August.

Sheep and lambs were generally in good condition, but some shrinkage was reported due to dry range feed. Sheep and lambs were in good condition in the northern states and on high ranges. Early lambs moving the past month have had good weights and finish. Late lambs developed well in most of the northern and mountain areas. The late lambs from the areas with dry feed will be lighter than last fall. Feed is dry and short in the Texas sheep section, where there has been a heavy movement of old ewes. Contracting of feeder lambs was very slow during August.

Condition as of September 1, with comparisons, was given as follows:

Equivalent of reported conditions: 49 or below is very bad; 50-59 bad; 60-69 poor; 70-79 fair; 80-89 good; 90-99 very good; 100 and over is excellent, unusual.

State	RANGES				CATTLE			
	Sept. 1943	Aug. 1943	Sept. 1942	20-Year Av. 1923-42	Sept. 1943	Aug. 1943	Sept. 1942	20-Yr. Av. 1923-42
North Dakota.....	88	91	90	77	89	91	91	84
South Dakota.....								
(Western).....	87	90	94	77	90	91	94	86
Montana.....	89	93	93	83	92	94	95	92
Wyoming.....	80	83	87	83	88	90	89	90
Nebraska.....								
(Western).....	84	88	91	83	89	91	92	89
Kansas.....								
(Western).....	77	81	95	76	85	88	94	86
Colorado.....	87	85	89	85	91	90	93	90
Oklahoma.....	63	75	90	73	77	82	89	81
Texas.....	72	80	88	78	80	86	88	83
New Mexico.....	78	81	88	84	84	85	91	87
Idaho.....	84	89	84	81	89	91	90	89
Washington.....	85	86	88	81	89	91	91	87
Oregon.....	81	87	83	81	85	88	88	88
Utah.....	87	82	82	84	92	88	90	90
Nevada.....	81	86	83	84	92	93	91	91
Arizona.....	85	70	74	82	84	75	79	86
California.....	83	83	85	75	86	87	89	87
Average Western Range States.....	80	83	88	80	85	87	89	86
(Weighted)								

Farm Land Values

A rise of 8 per cent in farm land values in the seventh federal reserve district during the second quarter of 1943 is reported by the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago. Based on reports of 600 country bankers in Iowa, Illinois, Indiana, Michigan and Wisconsin, the survey shows that the greatest rise occurred in Iowa, where an increase of 11 per cent was registered. Indiana was next, with 9 per cent, while Michigan and Illinois increases amounted to 8 per cent. A rise of nearly 4 per cent was reported for Wisconsin.

In the opinion of reporting bankers, there is little speculation occurring in farm lands. A very large proportion of farm sales recorded during the last quarter were for cash.—National Grange.

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NO OTHER ANIMAL HAS THE ability of the steer to grow on grass and develop such a large amount of meat with such a small proportion of grain feeding. A. E. Darlow, of the Oklahoma A. and M. College, explained that fact in a talk before the Osage County (Oklahoma) Cattlemen's Association several months ago. He said:

"We have heard for so long that 100 pounds of pork can be produced for 400 pounds of corn, plus protein, and that in the feed-lot a steer may require 600 pounds of concentrates plus protein for a 100-pound gain. Let me say immediately that the hog is the most economical from the standpoint of the grain consumed, but when we realize that the 800-pound steer goes into the feed-lot with an absolute minimum of concentrates in him, then the over-all picture changes.

"Let's remember this, that hogs for the most part consume grain, and there is a shortage of grain. If we must conserve grain, then one way we can do it and still have meat to eat is to use our grass. A 225-pound hog requires about 150 pounds of protein and 17 bushels of corn, or 1 pound of dressed pork requires the use of .85 pounds of protein supplement and 5 pounds of grain. A long yearling, weighing 700 pounds, requires, at most, 500 pounds of cake.

"So when people tell us that the hog is a more economical producer of meat than are cattle, he is not thinking about the production of cattle on grass. Actually, you can put this steer in the feed-lot, put 300 pounds more meat on him and make him a choice steer, and you will still get a pound of dressed beef for a pound of protein and 3½ pounds of grain. So the steer that is grown on grass until he goes in the feed-lot is still, over all, a cheaper source of meat than are hogs. If, instead of sending this steer to the feed-lot, he is continued on grass until he is a long two-year-old and he is a good steer, he will be a 1,000-pound fat steer. He will yield a carcass of 550 to 570 pounds if he is pretty well finished, and again it will cost only 750 pounds of cake to get it."

Seeding the Range

Out of the experience of recent years in seeding grass on range lands, the Colorado State College extension service finds that (1) late fall seeding has given best results in most sections of Colorado; (2) in most sections there is not enough moisture to support both native vegetation and a grass crop and therefore the brush or other vegetative cover is usually removed; (3) the seed should be planted in firm soil; (4) drilling grass seed gives better results than broadcasting it; and, (5) the seed should be covered from ½ to 1 inch deep.

ON THE SIDE

BROTHERS UNDER THE SKIN—

They're having their troubles in England about what's in a sausage. A recent case in point concerns one Archibald Frank Benford, of Lyddington, who was suspect in the matter of the meat content of his product. In the midst of the trial, a beast outside the window looked in and moored. Whereupon the attorney for the defendant declared, "There's someone saying 'Alas, my poor brother!'" This incident of the "uninvited witness" notwithstanding, and despite his plea that uneven mixing was all that was wrong with his sausage, the defendant was fined three pounds and advised to keep better tab on regulations governing such things in the future.

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FIRE, BUT NO FAMINE—

He may never get a medal for the kind of coolness he exhibited under fire in a Tulsa, Okla., restaurant, but the air cadet in question doubtless considered the steak he enjoyed to the last nibble award enough in itself. Despite the fact that fire broke out just as he started the meaty morsel, he proceeded calmly and methodically to make a clean sweep of his plate, not a whit deterred by the fact the he was surrounded by a melee of fleeing patrons, hurrying firemen, the smell and crackle of grease blazing in the kitchen, and the noise of a hook and ladder truck crashing into a parked car.

* * *

FORMAL ATTIRE—If they served 'em that way in the United States, we might expect to hear our waitresses sing out, "Wrap one in a shawl!" And the result would be a hamburger—not as we know it, but as the Australians concoct it. It is not known whether the purpose is to disguise the meat or keep it warm, but the fact remains that in the down-under country if you order a hamburger they bring it to you all dressed up in cabbage leaves.

* * *

HORSE RATIONS—It isn't anything new to read about restrictions on auto travel, but Germany is now going a turn-of-the-wheel farther than that: New regulations extend the pleasure-driving ban to horse-drawn vehicles. We cannot avoid a pun in saying that Shank's mare is apparently the only still unrationed means of getting around.

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FAIR EXCHANGE—There's a woman in Seattle, Wash., who knows a good bargain when she can get her hands on it. As part of a divorce suit settlement, she was astute enough to arrange for herself full possession of almost 80 cans of food reposing on the family shelves. In shucking a mere husband, she has managed to retain a prize that love nor money could get.

AMERICAN CATTLE PRODUCER